

The world will not allow a return to barbarity of the past, Gummer says



Diverging course: Jan Odin Olavson, of the Small Whalers' Union, on board a Norwegian whaler as it passes a Greenpeace vessel

Norway's greenest halo slips

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY,
ENVIRONMENT
CORRESPONDENT

THE surprise Norwegian decision to resume commercial whaling next year puts at risk the world's most solid environmental reputation, that of Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway's prime minister.

In 1987 the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, which she chaired, said that the earth's life-support systems were breaking down under the stresses of industrial growth and exploding world population. It had enormous influence and Mrs Brundtland's own answer, which has been adopted as the way forward after Rio, was sustainable development.

It is the logic of this policy that provides her defence of renewed whaling: the north-eastern Atlantic minke whale stock is large enough to be hunted sustainably, she says. What it does not take into account is the strong animal welfare sentiment of many in industrialised countries. To them, whaling is abhorrent because of its cruel killing methods, sustainable or not.

Iceland quits IWC to form breakaway whaling body

By DAVID YOUNG

ONE of the world's three main whaling nations has accused the International Whaling Commission of being hijacked by ill-informed environmental groups and diverted from within by scientists working to a "hidden agenda".

Iceland yesterday withdrew its membership at the IWC annual conference in Glasgow, confirming a decision made a year ago and discussed by the Icelandic government. It will form a new organisation, the North Atlantic Marine Mammals Commission, and will be joined by Norway, Greenland and the Faeroes.

The organisation will carry out detailed marine research and ultimately issue permits for commercial whaling in the seas controlled by the four countries.

Norway, which will remain in the IWC, announced that it would resume commercial whaling next year. The decision to restart whaling and ally itself with Iceland could mean that it will give the IWC notice later this week that it too will resign unless the

moratorium on commercial whaling, imposed in 1986, is lifted to allow hunting of the smaller minke whales.

Japan, the third nation pressing for the moratorium to be lifted and the largest whaling nation, will continue its membership of the IWC. It has started intense lobbying within the organisation and has already said that it would host next year's conference and meet additional costs of smaller nations.

Gudmundur Eiríksson, the Icelandic commissioner to the IWC, said that his country was leaving because the organisation was being influenced by "rabid" people who had no direct connection with the industry. He said it had become an agency to protect whales rather than an organisation to seriously discuss the scientific and environmental issues concerning whales and the whaling industry.

"A country such as Iceland must be a participant of nature. The IWC is out of touch with current trends," he said. One of his colleagues, a scientific adviser to the IWC, said that he frequently found

some members of scientific committees were deliberately delaying discussion on certain matters because they represented views held by environmental pressure groups and often by countries up to 5,000 miles away from Iceland, with no knowledge of the effect a whaling ban has on the country's economy.

Iceland did not name those countries that it feels are having undue influence on IWC decisions but it will not have been encouraged by the attitude taken by John Gummer, the agriculture, fisheries and food minister, who officially opened the conference. Mr Gummer said that a return to whaling would not occur until there had been more detailed scientific evidence to show that whale stocks were still not being threatened, that a humane way of killing was developed, and until the IWC could effectively police and enforce any quota introduced.

"The world will not allow us a return to the barbarity of the past," he said. His statement went far further than environmental groups had

hoped and was more combative than many nations hoping to reintroduce whaling had expected.

Mr Gummer said that in the past IWC measures to control whaling had been too late and too feeble to prevent over-hunting of many species. The IWC's history of regulating whale hunting had created little confidence.

The commission's revised management procedure, which is being debated in Glasgow and which Japan and Norway hope will form the basis for a reintroduction of hunting for minke whales, was, Mr Gummer said, "valuable scientific work" but he added: "Mathematics are only a step on the way to a better more cautious management."

"This generation is on trial. Man, the only predator capable of reason, stands accused of mindlessly endangering the whole natural order. We, who so few years ago seemed set on destroying whole species of whales forever, must realise the world will not allow us to risk a return to the barbarity of the past."

Plenty of prey but gun stays in port

An Icelandic crew takes out Sue Lloyd-Roberts to hunt for whales, but only as an academic exercise

GUNN Konradsson, whaler, joins his crew on the quay. It is 4am in the northern Icelandic fishing village of Litli-Arskogssander. Whale hunting is a family business in Iceland and the crew consists of his son-in-law, Gunther, and nephew, Haukur.

They have been told by fishermen overnight that there are many whales sheltering from the gales in a neighbouring bay. They have no difficulty in making ready the 27-tonne whaling ship, Nirvadusk. After all, it is broad daylight as it has been all night in this far northern outpost of Europe.

The ship can be distinguished easily from the cod fishing vessels and shrimp trawlers in the harbour by its huge crow's nest from which the whalers scan the ocean for their prey — *Baleanus acutorostrata*, the minke whale.

They are not hard to find. Less than an hour out of the fjord, an aviary of gannets, fulmars, guillemots and kittiwakes gives away a shoal of krill, a foodstuff shared by the birds and whales. Soon there is a flick of a tail, then frequent black humps rise from the rough seas. Konradsson drives his tiny boat forward with mounting excitement in response to the cries of the crew staring from the crow's nest.

But this is a hunt with no kill. It is seven years since the whalers of Iceland and Norway have fired their harpoons in earnest. On the foredeck of the Nirvadusk there is an empty space once mounted, Konradsson's gun stays locked away on the quayside. He has not been allowed to use it since he was banned from whaling by the International Whaling Commission in 1985. Today's mission is to find whales for a visiting reporter and to prove a point.

Konradsson does not understand why the ban has lasted so long. His demonstration of the abundance of minke whales is confirmed by research sponsored by the Icelandic government and endorsed by independent scientists. They estimate that there are now about 100,000 minke whales in the northern Atlantic.

Man charged with Jo Ramsden kidnap

A retired psychiatric nursing assistant was yesterday charged with kidnapping Jo Ramsden, right, the Down's Syndrome sufferer whose body was found in woodland on the Dorset-Devon border last March. She had disappeared in April last year from her home town of Bridport in Dorset. Dorset Police said Michael John Fox, 48, from Charmminster, near Dorchester, had been charged with five offences of kidnapping, two of rape and three of intercourse with mentally defective women. A spokesman said that of yesterday's charges only one, of kidnapping, referred to Jo Ramsden.



'Mad cow' disease kills big cats

A puma at Chester Zoo called Cindy and a cheetah exported from Britain to Australia have died from a feline version of the "mad cow" disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), which has killed more than 60,000 British dairy cattle since 1986. Keith Meldrum, the government's chief veterinary officer, said: "We know that the puma and the cheetah were fed a variety of materials, including cattle carcasses and feed seems to be the most likely route by which the disease was contracted." According to the zoo, the puma was fed raw carcass meat that was unfit for human consumption but did not contain brain, so far the only organ in which the causative agent of BSE has been found.

These are the first confirmed cases in big cats, though 27 domestic animals have died from feline spongiform encephalopathy since early 1990. The pet cats are thought to have been infected by food containing the remains of BSE-affected cattle or sheep suffering from scrapie, a closely related disease. An account of Cindy's case is due to be published soon in the *Veterinary Record*. Occasional deaths among big cats from a BSE-type disease are not surprising given the susceptibility of their smaller domestic cousins.

Giant library opens

The British Library's newest building was opened at Boston Spa, West Yorkshire, yesterday, providing a permanent home for more than seven million scientific, technical and business documents. Robert Key, national heritage undersecretary, performed the ceremony which marked the latest stage in streamlining the library's operations on two sites at St Pancras, north London and Boston Spa. The document collection occupies 900 miles of shelving at the new £2.2 million custom-built Hockway Building at Boston Spa. The centre will deal with more than three million requests for documents each year, an operation which earned the library £15.7 million last year. The opening coincided with the arrival of the site's 1,000th staff member, Michelle Smith, 28, who described the building as "a palace" compared with the "stuffy little rooms at the back" where she worked at the library's Great Russell Street site. "It was really horrible and disgusting with pink walls," she said.

Firebomb charges

A security cordon was thrown around a court yesterday as a second man was charged in connection with the planting of firebombs in stores in Leeds city centre in June. Armed police guarded Leeds magistrates' court building. More than 100 uniformed and plain clothes officers were stationed outside. Sean Paul Cruickshank, 21, from Londonderry, who was arrested in Cairnryan, Dumfries and Galloway, on Wednesday, faced 12 charges, including conspiracy to commit arson, placing an explosive substance, arson, attempted arson and possessing explosives. He was remanded in custody until July 6. In a separate hearing, Eamonn Patrick O'Donnell, 37, a student at Bradford and Ilkley College, West Yorkshire, and originally from Londonderry, who faces the same charges, was remanded in custody in his absence to the same date.

Riverbus deadline

The future of London's struggling Riverbus will be told tomorrow at noon today when passengers will be told whether an eleven-hour bid to find new backers for the service has been successful. Talks with a number of parties eager to continue running the Riverbus have been in progress for some weeks. The future of the service was thrown into doubt when Olympia & York, the Canary Wharf developer and principle owner of the Riverbus, went into administrative receivership in May. Officials at the loss making waterborne passenger service, which is the fourth attempt since the second world war to exploit the Thames as a highway for commuting, remain hopeful that a deal to save the Docklands transport link can be finalised before June 30 deadline expires.

Princess visits Belfast

The Princess of Wales went ahead with a visit to Northern Ireland yesterday in spite of a security scare prompted by disclosure of her plans by two Irish newspapers. Several thousand people turned out to greet her in Belfast city centre. The princess, making her fourth visit to the province, seemed relaxed as she chatted to well-wishers. The Northern Ireland Office usually informs journalists the night before an important visit, but without disclosing the visitor's identity and with an embargo. Yesterday Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, said there was no question of postponing the princess's engagements.

Cannabis girls jailed

Two trainee hairdressers who tried to smuggle 56lbs of herbal cannabis were the youngest drug couriers to have been caught by customs officers at Stansted Airport. Chelmsford crown court was told yesterday. The consignment was so heavy that they had difficulty lifting the suitcase containing it. Maria Cunliffe, 17, from Ealing, west London, and Sonia Overall, 18, from Northolt, Middlesex, were sent to a young offenders' institution for 18 months after they admitted smuggling the drug, worth £45,000, last year. They claimed they had been "set up" by drugs barons who gave them a holiday in Montego Bay, Jamaica, and £839 spending money each. Customs men became suspicious because of their ages and the fact that they were seen off on their holiday by a Rastafarian man.

Britain to agree 15% VAT rate

FROM TOM WALKER IN LUXEMBOURG

UNDER pressure from his EC colleagues, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was said last night to be near to committing the government to a legally binding minimum rate of value added tax for the next three years.

As ministers argued into the night here, the government at last seemed ready to give up its struggle to keep VAT out of the grasp of Brussels. In return, Mr Lamont was offered concessions in other areas of indirect taxation, such as lower minimum rates of excise duty on whisky. But these gains will seem small to the Eurosceptics among the government ranks, who will question why, at the first EC meeting after a subsidiary clause was attached to the Maastricht treaty, Britain has been willing to climb down in a sovereignty dispute.

Although Britain's standard rate of VAT, at 17.5 per cent, is above the proposed legal minimum of 15 per cent, the government until last night had always insisted that it would go no further than a political undertaking not to drop rates beneath an EC minimum.

But diplomatic sources

from other member states emerging from last night's talks said Mr Lamont appeared ready to agree to a legally binding EC directive as long as it only lasts three years. After that a new directive will be negotiated, or, as the government wants, the market will be left to determine VAT rates.

In return the EC Commission will probably lower its proposed minimum rates of excise duty on spirits. For the Scottish whisky industry this means vital exports to southern Europe will not be threatened. If the Commission's proposal for a minimum £2.40 duty had gone through, whisky prices would have at least doubled in low-tax countries like Greece.

Another area where the Commission could give a derogation to Britain in return for its adherence to a minimum rate is on VAT on second hand art sales. The Commission had wanted Britain to start charging VAT on all art sales from auctioneers, and this could have seriously damaged business at Christies and Sothebys. At present art sales are zero-rated for VAT in Britain, which has over 50 per cent of the EC market.

Trawler's life-raft in doubt

AN enquiry into the sinking of the trawler *Pescado* has suggested that inflatable life-rafts may fail to operate if they are dragged down with a boat. The 70ft Plymouth-registered boat sank with all six crew in 240ft of water off the Cornish coast in February last year.

Marine accident investigators from the transport department drew the "tentative conclusion" that the boat had capsized after its fishing gear snagged on the seabed, but relatives reject this and have called for a public enquiry.

The department yesterday published only the recommendations of the investigators and withheld the report itself because of the possibility of legal action. The recommendations say: "Tests should be carried out to ascertain the behaviour of containers for inflatable life-rafts when forcibly submerged to a greater depth than that at which they will presently float free or operate."

At present, life-rafts must pass buoyancy tests at depths of about 13ft, but the report calls for tests at greater depths. "Bearing in mind that a life-raft and its container, which is initially trapped when a vessel capsizes, may become free as she sinks or reaches the bottom, it is important that buoyancy is maintained to as great a depth as is practicable."

The department's own marine directorate is considering a prosecution for breach of merchant shipping regulations. It has been reported that the ship was fishing despite allegedly having had its safety certificate suspended.

BMA queries standards

By LOUISE HIDALGO

THE British Medical Association called yesterday for an investigation into "the unacceptable standards" in some of Britain's residential homes and psychiatric institutions.

The call came as the association launched a two-year report into doctors' involvement in torture and human rights abuses worldwide, which included details of what it called the "systematic failure in psychiatric practice" in the UK.

The report, *Medicine Betrayed*, expressed particular concern at "the erosion of inspection powers" for treatment of the mentally ill in Britain's prisons, secure hos-

pitals and residential centres. The present trend towards small, more isolated psychiatric units, and transferring mentally ill patients into the community, also provided "a greater potential for abuse", it said.

Dr Fleur Fisher, head of the BMA's professional, scientific and international division, urged doctors everywhere not to "turn a blind eye" to possible human-rights abuses.

"Doctors must bear the responsibility of 'blowing the whistle' on human rights abuses where they are aware that they are occurring," she said.

The report, the product of a nine-person working party

Radio 3 rises to classic challenge

By PETER DAVALLE

SWEPTING changes aimed at giving BBC Radio 3 schedules a fresh look to attract new listeners were announced yesterday. Old favourites are axed in favour of livelier programmes to give wider appeal and fend off imminent competition from the independent station Classic FM.

Nicholas Kenyon, the new controller, who was appointed in March, said he wanted the station to be "more accessible to all who love great music and to represent the widest range of the repertoire".

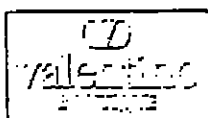
Major changes include: axing the 17-year-old discussion show *Music Week*; cutting drama from its twice-weekly slot to Sundays only; and axing the documentary programme *Soundings*. New features

being introduced include: a live late-night arts programme; and a three-hour show presented by Brian Kay on Sunday mornings.

The loss in drama output on Radio 3 will mean that the present 214 hours a year will drop to 162. Drama will now be limited to *Drama Now* and *The Sunday Play*, which will alternate with each other.

The first three changes in Radio 3's musical programmes will be introduced in a fortnight. *On Air* is a two-hour weekday programme, transmitted live. *In Tune* running for two and a half hours every weekday evening will feature classical music from all periods.

Letters, page 15
L&T section, page 1



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End of a four-year trail for father who sought justice for his daughter

Judge acquits rangers of Julie Ward killing

Four-year pursuit comes to an end

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

TWO Masai game rangers were acquitted yesterday of the murder of British tourist Julie Ward after the judge criticised the Kenyan police for attempting to cover up the murder, and Scotland Yard for failing to look closely at other suspects in the killing.

Fidhussein Abdullah, high court judge, said that he "shuddered to think" what would have happened over Miss Ward's murder had she been a common Kenyan and not the daughter of John Ward, who had his own personal wealth and a "never say die" attitude, as well as the backing of the British government and the media in his search for justice.

He hoped that the Kenyan government would now take the opportunity to "clean out" the police force and said that police chief Philip Kilongo and chief government pathologist, Dr Jason Kaviti, had "blatantly abused the law and justice system" in hampering Mr Ward's investigations.

The judge repeatedly



Julie Ward: her killers may never be found

named three men as being the most likely suspects in the case: David Nchoko, the clerk at Sand River Gate where Miss Ward was last seen alive on September 6, 1988; Gerald Karari, the policeman also at the gate when Julie disappeared; and Simon Makallah, the chief warden of the Mara.

He criticised Scotland

Yard's Det Chief Supt Graham Searle and Det Supt David Shipperlee for singling out Peter Tejuu Kipeen, 26, and Jonah Mutui Magiroi, 28, as the killers despite a "totally circumstantial case" against them. He said that he agreed with the verdicts delivered by the three lay assessors in the court who said last week that the two Masai rangers were innocent.

The judge, Kenya's longest serving jurist, said that he did not accept that the Caucasian hair found by British forensic scientists who searched the rangers' huts 18 months after Miss Ward's charred and mutilated remains were discovered was definitely Miss Ward's. He also dismissed Mr Ward's contention that he had found a battery similar to one used in Miss Ward's missing camera in the compound of the ranger's Makari outpost because it had not been produced.

Mr Ward, who anticipated the verdict, said that the prosecution had been "very badly let down" by forensic scientists who had told him privately that they believed the hair found at Makari was Miss Ward's. In court they said only that the hair could have been hers.

"I agree with the judge that there were others involved," said Mr Ward, who still believes the cleared men were guilty. "I don't know yet whether I shall carry on with my investigations."

When the judge's verdict was delivered the normally stern-faced men in the dock broke into broad grins and waved to family and friends.

Mr Ward's wife Janet, who took shorthand notes throughout the four-month trial, was visibly moved by the verdict. But, although she also still thought that the two accused were guilty, she said: "I am glad we are not seeing them taken away and hung. This is a very happy day for their families."

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL AND SAM KILEY

UNLESS new evidence emerges unexpectedly to put others in the dock for the murder of Julie Ward, her father's four-year pursuit of her killers reached the end of the road yesterday.

Sources at Scotland Yard, which sent two officers to investigate the killing at the invitation of President Moi, indicated that on the evidence there was no reason for Kenyan police to be looking for anyone else to charge.

Mr Ward, 58, a wealthy East Anglian hotelier who has spent £350,000 investigating Julie's death in the Masai Mara game park, disclosed after the trial that he would keep his options open. He called on the British government to press Kenya for a new enquiry and announced that he would visit the British high commission in Nairobi today to discuss what further steps might be taken.

His wife Janet, 58, who says they believe the acquitted rangers were guilty, added: "It's difficult to see why John should go back to beating the bush to find other murderers in the Mara."

"I was happy for the families of the accused. They've got their sons back. But I also feel that someone, somewhere, someone should have a bad day for what they did to Julie. It doesn't look like that day is going to come. I didn't want to see anyone hang. But they, the killers, ought to go around with a placard around their necks saying what they did."

Det Insp David Shipperlee, of the Yard's international and organised crime branch, who with Det Chief Supt Graham Searle was called in 18 months after the event to help Kenyan police, said: "I am pleased for John and Janet Ward that despite the verdict at least the matter



John Ward yesterday: persevering family man who wanted to see justice done

has come to an end, even though sadly we have not found out what really happened. John Ward is a persevering, approachable family man who simply wanted to see justice done."

Mrs Ward recalls Saturday, September 10, 1988, when she was planning a modest celebration to welcome Julie home after six months in Kenya. Her husband

phoned Nairobi to check Julie's flight arrangements. After being told she was four days late returning from the Masai Mara he left for Kenya to search for her.

On September 13 he saw his daughter's abandoned jeep stuck in a ravine five miles from Sand River, the letters SOS written in mud on the roof. That day, ten miles away, her charred and

mutilated remains were discovered in the ashes of a fire. Mr Ward gathered them up — only the bottom half of a leg and her jaw remained.

The Kenyan authorities said Julie had been attacked and devoured by wild animals when she wandered off to find help but Mr Ward was not satisfied and began his investigation to prove she was murdered.

Farmer to take legal action over hippies

A FARMER whose land has been besieged by 1,500 "new age" travellers is to take legal action to move them on. The hippies have set up camp in a disused wartime airfield at Smeatharpe, near Honiton, Devon. Francis Wigram, 42, of Riggles Farm, said yesterday he was seeking legal advice from the National Farmers' Union.

Numbers on the site swelled to more than 4,000 over the weekend as "ravens" arrived to join the hard core of travellers for an all-night party. A threatened 40,000-strong invasion failed to materialise.

Mr Wigram said: "We've had music non-stop for three consecutive nights and the main problem is we've got hundreds of people wandering around all over neighbouring farmland. They've broken the fence down and they are damaging the grass. People might think it's just grass, but for farmers it's a valuable crop. There is no water on the site, there are no toilets. You can imagine what it's like."

Mr Wigram farms the area as agent for Roger Mason, a local landowner.

Anthony Gibson, the farmers' union southwest regional director, said it was hoped to secure a possession order, giving the travellers 48 hours to leave the site, from a judge today. "If they have not left by Friday morning then we go back to court to obtain a possession order. If they are still there, then the police can move in to remove them physically," Mr Gibson said.

He said he would be contacting West Country MPs to press for changes in the law to protect their members from future invasions. The farmers' union wanted a new Public Order Act to prevent damage to land and to stop invasions by hippies.

Police reported no big incidents at the site and made only 20 arrests, mainly for minor drug, burglary and theft offences.

Row over criminal records

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

A COMPANY in the Philippines which employs deaf mutes and lists serving God as its highest priority is one of eight foreign firms being considered for a contract to computerise the criminal records of England and Wales.

Overseas contractors have emerged as the front-runners to undertake the painstaking work of typing details from three million criminal records held on microfiche on to a data base on the Police National Computer. The job will involve 4.25 billion key strokes.

Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, is expected to receive a consultants' report within the next few days and will then decide which firm should be awarded the contract. The Home Office says that no company in Britain is capable of handling the volume of work.

Labour is to demand that the government give MPs details about all the companies on the list and a claim by a shadow home affairs spokesman that the contract is about to be awarded to Sazec Philippines Inc. In a series of parliamentary questions to be tabled tomorrow, Barry Sheerman will call on Mr Clarke to disclose details of the government's links with Sazec.

He said: "These contracts are worth several million pounds and where records relating to terrorists and international criminals are concerned, surely they should be transcribed in the United Kingdom by employees covered by the Official Secrets Act."

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said it was "quite extraordinary" for consultants appointed by the Home Office to consider using a firm in the Far East.

A fact sheet distributed by Sazec, which has a base in Scotland, lists company priorities as serving God, employees and customers. Its organisation is described as "military in nature (uniforms, military command structure, discipline, ranks, strict attendance rules)". It has 300 workers, ten per cent of them deaf mutes, and claims its staff are the highest paid in the Philippines. It performs a considerable amount of charitable work.

Foundation may lose Moore works

BY SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Henry Moore Foundation, set up by the sculptor in 1977 nine years before his death, stands to lose most of the works of his that it owns if litigation by Mr Moore's daughter is successful.

Sir Alan Bowness, director of the foundation, said yesterday that 359 of its 660 sculptures were being claimed by Mary Danowski, Moore's only child, who helped to set up the foundation. Mrs Danowski is claiming 880 of the 3,000 drawings held by the foundation and more than 6,000 of its 8,000 graphic works.

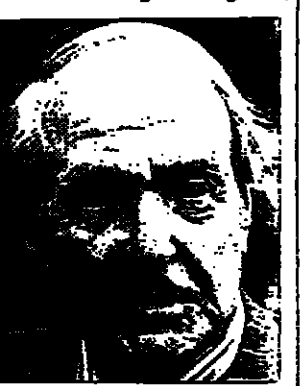
The foundation was set up to "educate the public in its appreciation of the fine arts and in particular the works of Henry Moore". All the artist's work was done for the foundation in the last decade of his life. Mrs Danowski is claiming them for her family, which she believes was her father's wish. The case is not expected to reach the High Court until next year.

Sir Alan said yesterday that he believed that the claim stemmed from a disagreement between Mrs Danowski and her father that led to her resigning as a trustee. "We believe there are no grounds for the claim and have been advised by the Charity Commissioners to resist the litigation."

Mrs Danowski has also objected to the foundation's £7

million plans to develop the site of Henry Moore's home at Perry Green near Much Hadham in Hertfordshire, now the headquarters for the foundation. Her grounds for objection are that the planned buildings are not in keeping with her father's wishes and the scheme was not in keeping with the present buildings.

Last night she said: "This is not a case of personal matters. The real issues will be resolved by litigation. The important issue is that the preservation of the working environment of the most honoured artist in modern British history is a matter of national importance, and a case for listing has already been submitted to David Mellor, secretary of state for national heritage heritage."



Moore: dispute over his drawings and sculptures

1,400 seek work to clean city

BY RONALD FAUX

WHEN Manchester advertised for 20 extra road-sweepers to help improve the city's looks and chances of winning the Olympic games, more than 1,400 people applied. The response caught the city by surprise because the candidates included many skilled workers.

The number was reduced to 30 for interview after applicants were screened by an interview panel armed with a strict set of rules. The winners' names were pulled from a hat. "It was the fairest way to make the selection," a spokesperson for the council insisted yesterday. "We did not want the personal preferences of the interviewing panel to interfere with the selection procedure."

The £193-a-week job attracted unlikely candidates such as a teacher aged 42 with a degree in Latin and English who is leaving her job as a teacher because she cannot stand the pressure imposed by the national curriculum.

Others, whose search for work was featured in a Granada World in Action programme last night included an engineering worker aged 54, made redundant 19 months ago, and a Gulf war veteran and skilled driver who left the forces and joined the dole queue.

BBC has time on its hands

BBC Radio 4 has taken the unprecedented move of cancelling the stirring chimes of Big Ben for its midnight bulletin tonight in favour of seven less glamorous pips.

The move is not part of some cost-cutting measure. An extra, seventh, pip is needed to restore the balance between the planet's spin and earthly time pieces. Unlike modern atomic clocks, which work using the highly precise disintegrations of caesium 133, the Earth is a less accurate timekeeper with its spin speeding up and slowing down.

Technically the BBC, which has an atomic clock in the basement of Broadcasting House, London, and which took over responsibility for corrections two years ago from the Royal Greenwich Observatory, will be cheating when it

Big Ben will make way for seven significant pips at midnight tonight, reports Nick Nuttall

scraps Big Ben at midnight. The International Earth Rotation Service in Paris, which uses scientific observations supplied by organisations such as the observatory to decree when an extra pip is needed, has set the correction time for 1am British Summer Time. A spokeswoman for the BBC said yesterday: "Radio 4 is off the air then so we are doing this during the midnight bulletin." Around 100 atomic clocks around the globe will be involved in the correction.

Fiddling with the odd second has become something of an annual event since the second was redefined in 1967 in terms of atomic disintegrations.

The length used to be based on astronomical observations dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries. However the earth has been less than obliging and over the past few hundred years has tended to slow its spin, thereby increasing the length of the day by almost a second each year.

For commuters, whose daily battle with bus, train and tube timetables makes them more familiar with minutes and hours rather than seconds, the adjustments may appear irrelevant. Dr John Pilkington, of the observatory, said that for mariners relying on traditional navigation equipment the correction was important.

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STERRY COMMUNICATIONS

Battersea Leisure sued over power station scheme

THE company that has spent eight years promoting a plan to convert Battersea power station into a theme park is being sued by the local council for £175,000 in unpaid planning fees.

Battersea Leisure, which won a competition in 1984 to find a new use for the 60-year-old Thameside landmark, is facing a claim for building control fees by Wandsworth council. The litigation marks the frustration of the council at the failure of the project to take off six years after planning permission was granted for what was supposed to be one of Britain's premier tourist attractions.

The eighth anniversary of the end of the public competition, which falls on Thursday, will find the power station, once called the Cathedral of the Electrons, a roofless shell. The roof was removed and the interior gutted in the winter of 1988 but work stopped in March 1989 after the consortium, led by John Broome, creator of Alton Towers in Staffordshire, complained that costs were escalating.

From initial estimates of £34 million for the whole project the cost had risen to £240 million and by the time the contractor, Sir Alfred McAlpine, withdrew its plant the following January

Douglas Broom on how plans for a big tourist attraction have brought only disappointment

it was said to stand at £300 million. As the contractor advanced through the building, defects including blue asbestos and sulphur penetration of the brickwork were uncovered.

The power station was also found to have almost no foundations, having been built in the 1930s for only a 30-year working life. It had continued producing power until 1983.

The power station, designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, became one of the best loved of all London's modernist buildings although few saw its inner glories, such as the marble-walled control room. Its four 337ft chimneys, modified Corinthian columns supporting nothing but sky and four plumes of smoke, caused uproar when they were built because of fears that smuts would damage the pictures in the Tate Gallery across the river.

Fifty years on, the closure of the generating hall launched a tide of protests

and under pressure from conservationists, Michael Heseltine, who was environment secretary, listed the building in 1989.

Mr Broome's plans for an Edwardian theme park and high technology leisure centre seemed the answer to the campaigners' prayers. The complex, its Art Deco glories restored, was due to open in 1986. Battersea Leisure, which still refers to the shell of the power station as "The Battersea", the name Margaret Thatcher gave it at the launch ceremony in 1988, insists the project is not dead.

By the time Mrs Thatcher aimed a laser gun to name the building, the opening date had slipped back. Mr Broome was characteristically specific. "May 21 1990 at 2.30pm precisely, put that in your filofaxes now," he told journalists. "Get here at 2.35 and you will be too late."

The ever-rising cost of the project and the recession put paid to that but in spite of rival bids for the site and difficulties with fellow developers the company refuses to admit defeat. Reports that the site had been sold to an unnamed Lebanese businessman were dismissed yesterday by a company spokesman as "absolute nonsense".



Cathedral of the Electrons: the scheme to turn the power station into a theme park was the answer to conservationists' prayers

Orphan asks court to quash order

Anorexic, 16, appeals for the right to starve herself

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GIRL aged 16, suffering from the slimmer's disease anorexia, yesterday launched an attempt in the Court of Appeal to win the right to refuse treatment.

In a test case with wide-reaching implications for the rights of teenagers to refuse life-saving medical treatment, the girl — whose arms were once encased in plaster to prevent her interfering with a tube through which she was being fed — challenged a High Court ruling that she could be treated against her wishes.

That ruling was given in May by Mr Justice Thorpe, a Family Division judge. He decided that the local authority that has care of the girl, identified only by the letter "J", should be given permis-

sion to have her treated, without her consent, for anorexia.

Yesterday, Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Master of the Rolls, and Lords Justices Balcombe and Nolan were asked by the girl's lawyers to give her the right to decide for herself whether she wants treatment for the condition. It was argued that, because the girl was over 16 and understood the implications of what she was asking, she was old enough to refuse the treatment.

Allan Levy, QC, for the girl, was asked by Lord Donaldson: "Does your submission involve the extreme view that, if you have a 16 or 17-year-old who is, for example, a Jehovah's Witness and who says she refuses to have a blood transfusion and it is

known she will die, she is entitled to take that decision?"

He replied: "Yes. In our submission that is the proper construction of the statute." In J's case, her condition was not regarded as life-threatening, he said.

J's life was described as tragic. Her father died from a brain tumour, her mother died from cancer and she suffered unfortunate experiences in foster care. She began to lose weight after the death in 1990 of her grandfather. Finally, anorexia was diagnosed. At one stage, she was fed through a nasal tube with her arms encased in plaster to stop her removing it.

Mr Levy said J's case was that she wished to remain

living where she was in council care and did not want to be moved to a specialist medical unit where she would be treated for anorexia.

When the case first came before the High Court, the girl herself gave evidence to Mr Justice Thorpe. In his judgment, he gave a graphic description of her: "I was inevitably impressed by her appearance. She looks very thin and very ill and I was equally impressed by her distress and the fervour with which she pleaded to be left where she is."

"She emphasised that she did not want to get better; that there was no reason or motive for her to get better; that she wished to remain in control; that she would cure herself when she decided it was right to do so."

He said she also stressed that she wanted to live with a family. One of the significant aspects of the case was that, since her admission to a special care unit where she had been since last year, she had been without a family. She had been fostered in the past but by January last year her then foster parents were at the end of their tether and J was admitted to a specialist adolescent residential unit run by a child psychiatrist. After admission, she was frequently violent to herself and members of staff.

John Samuels, QC, for the unnamed local council involved, told the appeal judges that the girl's condition was worsening: "There has been a rapid and dramatic decrease in her weight in the last eight days. She has refused all forms of food and one sees a dramatic nose-dive in her weight as a result," he said.

The Court of Appeal issued an injunction banning publication of any information that might lead to the girl being identified. The injunction also bans anyone from soliciting information from the child or those caring for her. The hearing continues today.



Short: within a match of world challenge

Chess firm reinstates cash offer

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

NIGEL Short, Britain's top chess grandmaster, has resolved a long-running ban on sponsorship with Hegener & Glaser, a Munich-based manufacturer of chess computers.

In 1988, in a drive for publicity, the company offered a prize of one million Swiss francs (£400,000) to go to the first Western player to confront the world chess champion Gary Kasparov in a match for the title.

On April 28, Nigel Short won the final game of a match with Anatoly Karpov to join Jan Timman from Holland in the final stage of the qualifying cycle for the world chess championships in Los Angeles next year. Thus, automatically, it would be a Westerner playing Kasparov. But by then Hegener & Glaser had withdrawn its offer, claiming that the political map had changed and that it was no longer appropriate to draw sharp distinctions between the West and former communist states.

The decision to withdraw, which received publicity only as Nigel Short was on the point of defeating Karpov, was greeted with protests from the chess world.

Now, however, Hegener & Glaser has apparently reinstated the offer, though under somewhat altered terms. Instead of a winner takes all situation, both Short and Timman will share the prize money in return for certain promotional activities.

Law firms join forces for tobacco test case

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO of Britain's leading personal injuries law firms are joining forces to prepare test legal actions against tobacco companies in the United Kingdom on the strength of last week's ruling in America.

The firms, Bindman's and Leigh Day & Co, plan to bring together the few existing claims over smoking and also generate new claims through placing an advertisement asking people with smoking-related disease to come forward. Although there are a few cases against tobacco companies pending, none has so far come to court.

Maryn Day, of Leigh Day & Co, said: "People have not really come forward to test the law because they have taken the view that if they are ill through smoking, it is their fault. Lawyers here have not really been pro-active." After the ruling, in which the US Supreme Court held that health warnings on cigarette packs do not automatically protect manufacturers from being sued by people with smoking-related illnesses, there was now a feeling among lawyers that it was important to test the law here.

Among those who might have strongest claims were people who started to smoke in the 1950s before the links with lung cancer and introduction of health warnings on packs, and those who started smoking as children, he said. "Where people continued after health warnings, one could argue that smoking, by its very nature, is addictive and therefore people were not entirely free to give up."

Robin Lewis, of Bindman's, who is the solicitor to Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), said that a particular growth area was likely to be claims by passive smokers, which in law were easier to mount than those by direct victims of smoking. He was cautious about the implications of last week's case but said the issue had to be "litigated at least once because the potential numbers of

claims over smoking is vast". He added: "There is a different law here, a different culture, where people have not automatically rushed to lawyers if they have become ill."

Mark Flanagan, of Ash, said that the American judgment had already prompted enquiries from people. "The ruling last week was an important step forward."

"I predict we will now see a huge generation of cases in which insurance companies will force tobacco companies to settle out of court, and will also put pressure on tobacco companies to take on to their own shoulders the responsibilities of warning smokers."

Three or four cases are being prepared where the victim has Buerger's disease, a rare disease in which the arteries, nerves and veins in the legs become severely inflamed, leading to gangrene. The condition is almost unknown in non-smokers.

John Dean, of Ballywalter, co. Down, is suing the American tobacco company Gallaher, claiming damages for alleged misrepresentation and inadequate warnings of the dangers associated with smoking.

Earlier this year, James Dunn, who had both legs amputated after being diagnosed as having Buerger's disease, was told his suit for damages had been ruled out of time.

A young spina bifida sufferer who was left with severe brain damage after an error during surgery at Westminster Children's Hospital was awarded £600,000 agreed damages in the High Court yesterday.

Stephen Zelmanowicz, 22, of Monks Risborough, Buckinghamshire, led a fulfilling life until an operation in 1987, in which his heart stopped because of an avoidable accident, the court was told. The operation left him in a vegetative state. The Riverside Health Authority admitted liability.

Law Times, page 27

Hi-tech jail fails to halt protests

Britain's first privately run jail was bound to encounter initial snags, reports Richard Ford

THREE separate incidents inside Britain's only privately run remand centre have ended any hope that prison disturbances could be minimised by holding inmates in surroundings of the highest quality.

Protests at the Wolds remand centre on Humberside highlighted yet again the importance of relationships between staff and inmates and also everyday items such as food and medical care.

Just as there have been disturbances at recently opened state-run prisons at Moorlands and Whitemoor, prison service staff and penal reformers see the trouble at the Wolds as part of a "settling down" period while the character and culture of an institution is formed.

But some penal reformers believe that staff at the Wolds face an additional difficulty during a time when both sides test each other to see how far they can push an advantage. Adam Sampson, of the Penal Reform Trust, said: "At the Wolds it is different. A lot of the prisoners have more experience of custody than the staff, many of whom have never been in a prison before. The prisoners feel they know a lot more about prisons than the staff and this has had an unsettling effect."

The prison opened in April and holds 130 inmates. Mr Sampson, who visited it last week, said standards were higher than those found in most other jails. Staff were name tags and called inmates by their first names. It was a much more civil institution than many other prisons.

In spite of a regime in which prisoners must spend a minimum of 12 hours out of their cells each day, the last month has seen three incidents. One involved 42 prisoners refusing to return to their cells for up to seven hours in a protest over food.

Group 4, which has the contract to run the prison, decided to supply food in airline-style containers but that was greeted with complaints from prisoners who preferred meals on plates from serving hatches. The managers have bowed to the prisoners' wishes.

A second incident involved medical care and the third over the weekend involved 48 inmates who caused £5,000 damage when they refused to return to their cells.

The disturbances were contained by Group 4 staff with a Home Office controller, who works at the prison, with the chairman of the board of visitors in attendance. Home Office officials will be anxious to ensure that recent troubles are over. Their worst scenario would be for the prison to erupt and for the governor to seek help from staff of state-run jails in the battle to regain control.

Doctors risk legal action

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS who treat patients without their consent risk being charged with assault. The commonest cases involving adults are those of Jehovah's witnesses who refuse blood transfusions. Some doctors will respect a patient's wishes, even if it means death, but others will seek to override them.

In the mid-1980s, a man who stabbed a woman aged 19 who later died in hospital denied murder on the grounds that by refusing medical treatment she had been responsible for her own death. The woman, a Jehovah's witness, had refused a blood transfusion and her doctors had reluctantly complied. The court rejected her assault argument.

Some doctors ignore instructions by giving the transfusion after the patient has been anaesthetised. The patient may recover and leave hospital unaware of the transfusion. The Medical Defence Union has said that this could expose a doctor to the threat



Gillick: fought for parental rights

of legal action. No doctor has been prosecuted in Britain but in Canada a surgeon who ordered a transfusion for a woman he knew to be a Jehovah's witness was convicted of assault and fined \$20,000.

In Britain, lawyers say that the wishes of a mentally competent adult who understands the implications of the treatment proposed must not be overruled. Under the Family Law Reform Act 1969, those

aged 16 to 18 have the same rights as adults.

Kate Allsopp, deputy chief executive of the Medical Defence Union, said: "What we say to doctors is that they must decide for themselves whether their consciences will allow them to stand and let the patient die for lack of treatment or inflict on them and run the risk of being charged with assault."

Cases of children under 16 are trickier. The parents of infants have the right to withhold consent but can be overruled by the courts. As the child ages, his wishes must be taken into account.

In the case brought in 1985 by Victoria Gillick, who challenged the right of a doctor to prescribe the contraceptive pill to a girl aged under 16 without consulting her parents, the House of Lords ruled that the question of whether a minor could consent to such medical treatment turned on the child's understanding and maturity rather than age.

Surgeons transplant baboon's liver into hepatitis patient

Pittsburgh, where four-year-old Laura Davies underwent a double-transplant, continues to push back medical frontiers, Nick Nuttall reports

THE first transplant of a baboon's liver into a human has been performed by doctors in America. A man aged 35, whose own liver has been destroyed by the disease hepatitis B, received the primate's organ in an 11-hour operation over the weekend and yesterday opened his eyes, despite being in a critical condition.

The operation was performed at the University of Pittsburgh medical centre in Pennsylvania, by a team led by John Fung, chief of transplantation. The centre had disclosed ten days ago that it was working with techniques and combinations of drugs for carrying out such an operation. Approval was given secretly on Friday by the centre's ethics board and afterwards by the unnamed patient.

The board, made up of lay people, clergy and researchers, also gave the hospital approval for three more baboon-to-human liver transplants.

Without the operation the man would have died. The hepatitis B virus he is carrying would have attacked a transplanted human organ. Research indicates that baboon livers may be less susceptible.

The operation comes eight years after a baboon's heart was transplanted into a baby at Loma Linda University medical school in southern California. Baby Fae died 20 days after the operation, her body developing an antibody.

"Twenty-three humans have" received organs from animals since the 1960s with one patient surviving 98 days after getting a baboon's kidney at the University of Colorado in 1963. Medical researchers believe that animal-to-human trans-

plants might remain the only option for some patients particularly if a suitable human organ is unavailable. Man-made organs continue to be studied. For example, a plastic pancreas undergoing trials at Harvard University medical school in America has been found to successfully regulate blood sugar levels in animals.

Nevertheless it will be some considerable time before such devices are generally available and will be effective enough to allow recipients to lead independent lives, researchers believe.

Baboon organs resemble those of humans. The key to such transplant operations becoming more successful hinges on better ways of

curbing the body's immune system, which attack foreign organs, believing them to be an invading disease.

The Pittsburgh team used FK506, an experimental drug designed to minimise rejection by the man's body. Dr Leonard Bailey, who performed the Baby Fae transplant, said he favoured using baboons because they bred readily in captivity and, encouraged by new anti-rejection drugs and research, he is working toward more baboon-to-human heart transplants. "We have many more reasons to be optimistic today than at any time in transplantation history," he said.

Nevertheless, some people find breeding baboons, a close relative of man, to supply organs for humans ethically difficult. Some scientists are instead working on transplanting organs from pigs. Pig heart valves are already used in surgery in Britain, a spokeswoman for the UK Transplant Service in Bristol said.



Small hope: Baby Fae, who lived for 20 days



Long shot: a member taking aim in the Wiltshire Shooting Centre's tunnel home under Devizes

For sale: one tunnel, bats running water, no light

Old rail tunnels are finding a multitude of strange new uses, Rachel Kelly writes

SOME are used as rifle ranges; others house mushroom farms. Now a disused tunnel is to be sold as one of the longest and narrowest warehouses in the world, one answer to the question of what to do with disused railway tunnels.

Most of the country's 200 or so disused tunnels lie abandoned. Storage is the most obvious solution, but there are difficulties with damp.

John Slater, editor of *The Railway Magazine* for nearly 20 years and now a consultant editor, says: "The majority of tunnels tend to be damp, although it depends a lot on the ground through which a tunnel is driven. Underground streams can penetrate into a tunnel and turn it into a bog. It is very expensive to waterproof them."

The ground above, if chalky rather than clay, also can let water through. Some tunnel roofs were built to let water run through them to stop pressure building up. The Wiltshire Shooting Centre's rifle range in Devizes finds the damp atmosphere ideal for its purposes. "It keeps the lead pollution down," an official

said. "The water keeps the lead on the floor and then we steam-clean the floor."

Tunnels make perfect habitats for bats, a protected species. One disused railway tunnel near Landrindod Wells, Powys, was turned into a bat sanctuary two years ago with special nesting sites.

Tunnels are sometimes reopened. The Sharpthorne tunnel running between West Hoathly and East Grinstead, West Sussex, was reopened last month as part of development plans for the Bluebell railway.

The tunnel at Felwell, near Petersfield, runs through the Hampshire countryside and is three-quarters of a mile long, eight yards wide and sealed at both ends with recently built steel doors. It was originally part of the Meon Valley line, with a double line running from Alton to Fareham,

which was closed in 1955. About ten years ago, British Rail sold it, but it has lain disused since then.

Built partly of brick and partly of concrete in the chalky soil, the tunnel has a brick arch at its mouth. Planning permission was recently granted to Third Mile Properties, its owner, to convert it for use as an archive store.

"We have not done anything to it yet," Jonathan Burns, of Grimely J.R. Eve, the London agents, said. "We are tailoring the work we do to the interest we get." The tunnel would have to be made damp-proof, wired, and some kind of atmospheric control would have to be installed. One part of it will be left to the bats to live in.

Several storage companies have expressed interest in either renting the tunnel for about £70,000 a year, or buying it for £425,000, prices that reflect the tunnel's rarity.

British Rail said: "Disused tunnels are few and far between; they cost so much to build that few were built in the first place. Often the railways were built round the hill instead."

Four jailed for stolen car racket

By Stewart Tendler
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO men at the centre of the largest stolen car ring investigated by Scotland Yard were jailed for seven years at Southwark Crown Court yesterday. Two accomplices were jailed for five years.

Police believe that the gang made millions by stealing high-performance cars such as Porsches and Peugeot GTis from London streets and giving them the identities of insurance write-offs. The judge said that the gang was by far the most organised ring of criminals in this field that I have come across. Each of you had special skills. It is very sad to see such expertise so misdirected.

He said that Clarence Burrows, 31, of Croydon, south London, and Richard Emmanuel, 26, of Kingston, southwest London, who were jailed for seven years, were the gang leaders. Neville Hamilton, 35, of Stratford, east London, and Anthony McDonald, 31, of South Norwood, south London, were jailed for five years.

The four men were convicted last week of conspiracy to handle stolen goods.

Job shortage hits Oxbridge graduates

By Matthew D'Ancona, Education Reporter

ALMOST a thousand graduates finishing courses at Cambridge University have signed on for unemployment benefit in the city during the past two weeks, after warnings from careers advisers that they are no longer immune to the recession.

Cambridge's Jobcentre has taken on five extra staff to cope with what a spokesman described as an "unprecedented" 962 applications. "There are only 20 temporary jobs available, which gives you an idea of what it is like for students. Hopefully, many will find work at the end of the summer, so maybe these figures don't reflect the true long term picture," he said.

Hundreds of other students have signed on near their family homes. Simon Chaplin, deputy president of the Cambridge University Students' Union, said that undergraduates felt cheated by jobs scarcity. "It's very dispiriting for anyone to be out of a job. And for us it's a vicious circle. The government is putting the burden on students to pay for their own education by making them take out loans. So when they graduate they have their loan and overdraft to pay back. It's not a good start when you can't find a job."

Most students, he said, expected to start their first job on a salary of about £13,000 but many were settling for £3,000 less.

Bill Kirkman, secretary of the university's career service, said that it was too early to draw firm conclusions about this year's employment prospects. "We haven't got firm statistics, but there's no doubt that this is a difficult year for graduates," he said. The alarming increase in graduate unemployment reflected a slump common to all sectors of the economy, compounded by the "hang-over" of jobless graduates last year.

Oxford finalists have also felt the effects of the recession since term finished ten days ago, the university's student union said yesterday. Nigel Huddleston, welfare vice-president, said that students were concerned that the value of an Oxford degree was depreciating. "The most frequent request I've had has been about unemployment benefit," he said. "People with a 2:2 from here are beginning to wonder whether that's as good as a First from another university."

More than 5 per cent of Oxford students graduating last year were still out of work by December. The 100-year-old Appointments Committee, once a bounteous source of patronage, has renamed itself a Careers Service.

Universities and colleges were urged by their paymasters yesterday to face the implications of dramatic expansion in higher education and make better use of existing facilities.

The student population is expected to grow by a third by the end of the century to about 1.2 million, bringing a programme of expansion that has prompted fierce debate on how higher education institutions are to balance their budget as the pinch on public spending increases.

Yesterday's report, commissioned by the Universities Funding Council and Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council, said that improved management of space and the reorganisation of accommodation would make room for "a great many additional students".

The reports call for central timetabling of space resources currently controlled by individual departments, computerisation of information on space management and the inclusion of an estate manager on each senior management team.

Civil War weapons draw the crowds

SUCH is the interest in the Royal Armouries' travelling display of Civil War arms and armour sponsored by The Times that the Whitefriars Museum in Coventry has attracted two thirds of its annual attendance figure in the two weeks since the exhibition opened.

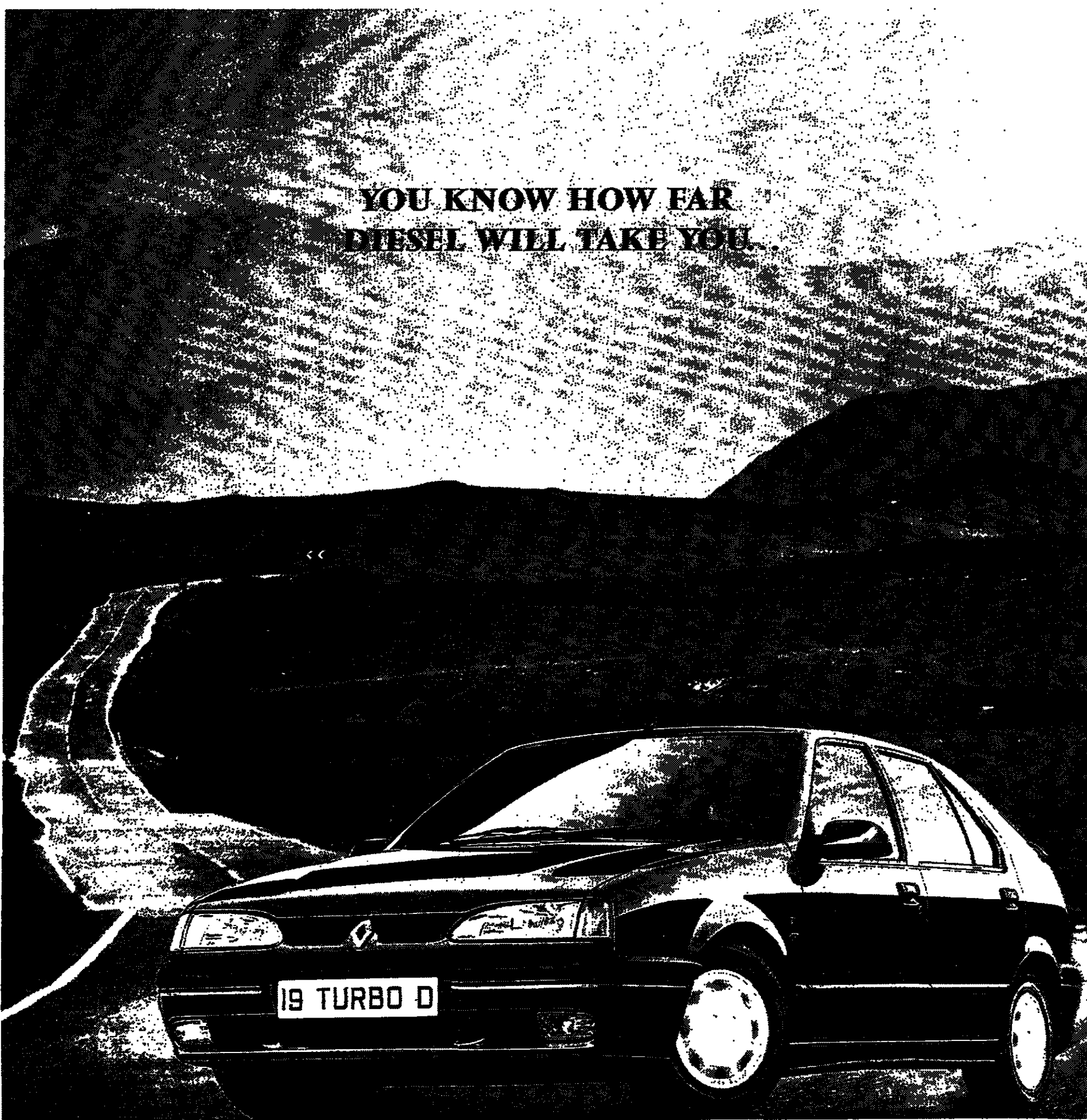
Margaret Rylett, the museum director, said yesterday: "We are delighted. We have had thousands of schoolchildren trooping through, and in a fortnight our attendance is well over 6,000. Last year we had fewer than 10,000 visitors."

The exhibition, which marks the 350th anniversary of the onset of the English Civil War, is the first travelling display to have been mounted by the Royal Armouries, England's oldest museum. Items include the swords, guns and 18ft pikes with which Civil War battles were fought, and King Charles I's gilt armour. Whitefriars Museum, in

Coventry is delighted with the Royal Armouries' exhibition, writes Robin Young

the building where the first casualties of the Civil War lost their lives in 1642, has been freshly signposted from Coventry city centre for pedestrians. Motorists should follow signs closely and drive past the building to be brought back eventually to a car park only a minutes' walk away.

The exhibition remains in Coventry until July 26. It will be displayed at the Castle Museum in Nottingham from August 2 to September 20, at the Foregate Museum in Worcester from September 26 and the Corinium Museum in Cirencester from January 9 to March 28 next year.



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Secret files disclose Churchill's fear in darkest days of 1940

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, SALEROOM CORRESPONDENT

A FILE containing secret telegrams from Winston Churchill to his commanders during the second world war is to be sold at Sotheby's. Complete with paper-clip stains and annotations by Churchill, the 17 documents comprise arguably the most important example of Churchill memorabilia to come to auction. They are being sold with an estimate of £8,000 to £10,000 on July 21.

How the file came into private ownership is not known. According to Sotheby's, an official note is attached to the bundle addressed to one T.W. Inglis-Jones and saying "You may like to keep these valuable original documents as a matter of historical interest." Sotheby's says that it does not know who the official was, or who Mr. Inglis-Jones was, and that the unnamed vendor is not related to Mr. Inglis-Jones.

"We have not received notification of the sale from Sotheby's," the Public Record Office said last night. "We have referred the matter to the Ministry of Defence and they are making enquiries."

One document dates from July 1940, on the eve of the Battle of Britain and after the collapse of France. Typed "Prime Minister's Personal Minute" and bearing a red "Action This Day" sticker, it

is a carbon-copy typed draft of a telegram to be sent in cypher to General Wavell, the Middle East Commander-in-Chief. Churchill wrote: "Events have made an invasion of Great Britain a real and early possibility... Every man must play his part... Above all we must not fritter and disperse our resources."

Another memo, dated November 29, 1941, and headed "Personal and Secret" urges General Auchinleck, who had by then superseded Wavell as Middle East Commander-in-Chief, to "visit the battlefield. Coming fresh to the scene with your drive and full knowledge of the situation you will put new vigour into the troops and inspire everyone to a supreme effort..." This



Churchill: estimate of £10,000 on documents

memo did the trick, as history relates. For it was Auchinleck's visit to the front that restored confidence when the offensive against Rommel was on the point of being abandoned, and led to the stopping of Rommel's army south of Tobruk, "the end of the beginning".

The file also contains a "Secret" note from Buckingham Palace conveying information about Operation Crusader, the relief of Tobruk. That is also annotated by Churchill.

By coincidence, Sotheby's will also be selling two typescripts for Churchill's speeches on July 21. Complete with stirring references to the greatness of Britain, they are expected to raise up to £6,000 each. The first reflects on the heroic role of the Cinque Ports in the country's defence, and praises "this glorious foreland of England/ the shrine of its Christianity/ the bulwark of its defence."

The script is rendered all the more evocative by the prime minister's last-minute alterations scribbled on to the script in a shaky hand as his train trundled to Dover where the speech was delivered. The second typescript dates from May 1955 and explains Churchill's resignation as prime minister to make way for Anthony Eden.



Kevin Lloyd: refused hair-cutting request on principle

Pony-tail man claims sex bias dismissal

By ROBIN YOUNG

A PONY-TAILED man who was dismissed from his job for refusing to have his hair cut claimed yesterday that he was the victim of sexual discrimination because women employees were allowed to have long hair.

Kevin Lloyd, 36, left his job as a computer engineer after being ordered to trim his hair, which reached halfway down his back, or to find a new job. The ultimatum came when his employer, Allied Software, merged with the American company Computers Incorporated. Brian Wizard, customer services director, told Mr Lloyd that his haircut was not in keeping with the company image.

Mr Wizard told the tribunal in southwest London: "He indicated that was his personal preference and he had worn his hair like that for the other firm. I said if he wasn't prepared to have his hair cut I would be terminating his employment."

Mr Lloyd, of Wapping, east London, said he refused Mr Wizard's request on principle. The firm's clients were interested only in his technical knowledge. "There was no one who said to me, 'you can solve my computer problem but first get your hair cut'."

He is claiming unfair dismissal and sexual discrimination against Computer Associates of Slough, Berkshire. The hearing, at Ebury Bridge Road, Chelsea, continues today.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lecturer who began fatal fire is jailed

A computer lecturer who killed a neighbour in a fire that she started to claim on her insurance was jailed for seven years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Lyn Payne, 32, of Shepherds Bush, west London, caused damage worth £170,000 when the petrol she set fire to exploded and destroyed her home and two other flats. She was said to have doubled the value of her contents insurance to £32,000 and removed property just before the blaze.

Payne denied arson and the manslaughter of 71-year-old Leon Ruyton. She had been found guilty on Friday and was sentenced yesterday.

Woman fights for mud hut

A woman born in Cameroon threatened yesterday to lie down in front of bulldozers sent to demolish the 54ft long mud hut she has built in the garden of her council house in Dagenham, Essex.

Redbridge council says that the hut could collapse in bad weather and has threatened to charge Desiree Ntolo, 34, for demolition.

Two remanded

Behari Bangher, 39, and his son Ashok, 18, both from Bedford, were remanded in custody until July 6 when they appeared before magistrates yesterday accused of murdering Gian Chand, 40, a taxi driver.

Tourist killed

Muggers are believed to have killed Robert Bean, 53, from West Drayton, west London, who was found dead with stab wounds in the doorway of his holiday apartment block in Torremolinos.

One owner...

A 1954 Ford Consul with only 31,320 miles on the clock was sold for £1,980 at Sotheby's in London yesterday. Failing eyesight forced Susan Prendergast, its owner from new, to sell it.

Killer hanged

Michael Hall, 52, who stabbed his wife and two young sons to death with a pair of scissors at their home in Ringwood, Hampshire, has been found hanged in his room at Broadmoor.

Two die on M1

Two people died and four were injured when three cars and three lorries crashed on the M1 near Dunstable, Bedfordshire, early yesterday.

Arson attack

Arsonists have severely damaged an unmanned police station at Duffryn, Newport, Gwent, for the second time in a year.

Defence ministry sells naval base

By KERRY GILL

THE Invergordon base, once one of the world's most important naval centres, is to close. The defence ministry announced yesterday that it is to sell more than 110 acres that remain of the facilities, including the fuel depot with 45 oil tanks.

The base at Invergordon, in the sheltered waters of the Cromarty Firth, was formerly a byword for Britain's maritime power when thousands of men serviced and served on the battleships and cruisers of the Atlantic fleet. The Royal Navy was to have pulled out in 1981 but Nato decided to save the base because of the Falklands conflict.

Despite the rundown of the base, Invergordon's naval anchorage has enjoyed a more peaceful role in the past 20 years as a centre for the construction of oil platforms and exploration rigs. The firth, formerly crowded with warships, has become Britain's main location for the maintenance and repair of North Sea oil and gas support ships and production facilities. The sale, as a whole or in three

sections, will include the Admiralty pier foreshore, the fuel depot covering 54 acres and the underground storage facility four miles north of Invergordon where, beneath a hill, lie six huge fuel tanks. Most interest is expected to come from the oil and shipping industries.

A Royal Navy presence has been on the firth since the end of the last century. The base came to pre-eminence during the first world war but, by the second world war, the Cromarty Firth was deemed to be too vulnerable to air attack and the majority of the fleet transferred to Scapa Flow with its unparalleled natural defences in Orkney. Roy Durie, of Ryden, the property consultants charged with the sale, said. The exposure of the base to enemy action was proved dramatically when a German plane dropped a bomb on one of the original oil tanks.

The rise in importance of the Rosyth naval dockyard on the Forth finally signalled the end of Invergordon's role as a leading base.

Miners pay to take over the first privatised pit

MINERS in South Yorkshire were close to making their own pit the first to be privatised in England yesterday as Arthur Scargill and his colleagues in the National Union of Mineworkers gathered in Scarborough to condemn the government's planned sell-off of the industry.

More than 160 men, many of them members of the NUM, have staked their redundancy money on a bid to take control of Thurston Colliery near Rotherham. British Coal has agreed in principle to leasing the 80-year-old mine to a consortium that the men formed earlier this year and last week Thurston Colliery (1992) took over the £20,000 weekly bill for pumping, care and maintenance of the mothballed mine.

Talks on the terms of the lease, expected to run initially for five years, are now being held with British Coal executives and the miners hope to be their own bosses within eight weeks. They are likely to pay about £42,000 for the first year and a levy on every tonne produced.

Fred Gating, a member of the consortium's steering committee and a miner at Thurston for 25 years, said: "We accept that privatisation is coming." Mr Gating, 47, was the colliery overseers' union Nacods until the mine closed last December. "It is strange that after all that time I shall be involved in the running of my own pit," he said.

Pitmen are defying the NUM by bidding for a stake in British Coal, writes Paul Wilkinson

"but it means that the men will have a say in how things are done and have control over their future. It also means we can keep the pit open."

British Coal shut Thurston, saying geological faults had made mining unprofitable. Projected losses for last year were £15 million. Mr Scargill called for a strike, but the men voted 309 to 251 to accept the closure. Of the 660 workforce, only 134 were found work in mines near by. Some stayed on to strip equipment from the pit, but the rest were paid off.

The idea of a workers' takeover was mooted early this year. Rotherham Borough Council persuaded British Coal not to seal the mine until it could carry out an independent appraisal of its future and 160 of the miners agreed to put up between £4,000 and £5,000 each from their redundancy money to provide seed capital. Financial and moral support flowed in from other parts of the coal community and work began in earnest to find backers and to negotiate terms.

Mr Gating said: "We believe a lot of the loss was a paper figure, created by the purchase of a lot of expen-

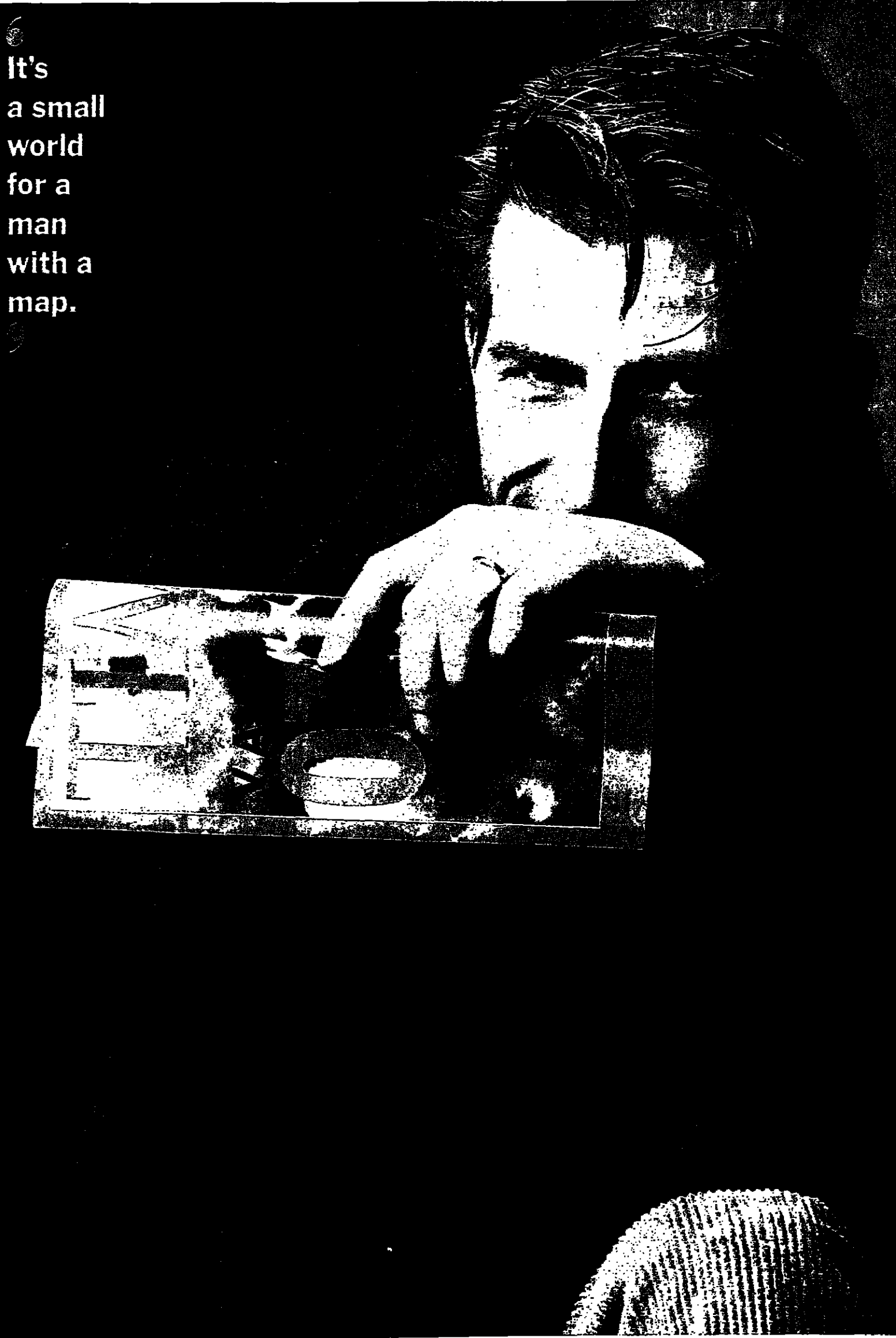
sive new equipment just before the closure, which we say was not needed. That has gone now and we shall be renting older equipment, which is still just as capable of doing the job. We shall be looking at cheaper methods of cutting coal."

One method is the cut and fill operation, which miners opposed when the company tried to introduce it at the Selby field. The technique dumps spoil in the excavated coal seam, cutting out the expense of securing tunnels and removing the spoil. The consortium believes it can extract more coal per man and expects to have a workforce of about 200.

The men's determination to buy their mine is matched by Mr Scargill's insistence that privatisation is wrong. "I reject absolutely the notion that privatisation of our industry is now inevitable," he told the Scarborough conference yesterday. "Privatisation would mean more pit closures, more jobs lost and more communities destroyed."

He said the number of pits, now down to 49, would be cut by another 20 in the run-up to privatisation. "We all know that during the next 12 months there will be intense pressure on our union to submit to further butchery and the senseless closure of valuable pits."

Mr Scargill later called on MPs to investigate the industry's pension fund, after claiming that British Coal had misused millions of pounds.



It's a small world for a man with a map.

TIME INTERNATIONAL

THE WORLD'S NEWSMAGAZINE

مكتبة الشمل

THE TIMES TUESDAY JUNE 30 1992

2,400 MILLION POUNDS WENT INTO THIS DOOR.



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Lilley moves to safeguard pensioners

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHANGES to the law which will give pensioners greater protection over their funds were announced by the government yesterday.

Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, said that in future members of occupational pension schemes would be entitled to much more information from trustees and administrators about their funds.

Giving the government's formal response to the report on pension funds from the all-party Commons social security select committee, Mr Lilley said every member of an occupational scheme should have an annual statement of the value of their savings. At the moment funds have to be audited only every three years, and these reports do not have to be made public unless pensioners ask for them.

Today Mr Lilley is expected to announce further changes in the regulation which will give pensioners some entitlement to funds if the company they are working for goes bankrupt.

At present banks and the Inland Revenue are the main creditors for pension funds. The new regulations will give creditors' rights to pensioners for the first time, so that they will have at least a share of any funds left.

Mr Lilley said the government had accepted the committee's main recommendation that it should establish an enquiry to collect evidence on what the detailed structure of a new Pensions Act should be. Most of the select committee's other suggestions fell within the remit of the enquiry committee chaired by Professor Roy Goode, Mr Lilley said.

Mr Lilley said the changes in regulations tightened the existing law of information. The new regulations lay down time limits within which information must be disclosed to members, prospective

members, beneficiaries and trade unions.

The schemes must disclose whether an independent trustee had been appointed following the appointment of an insolvency practitioner in relation to the sponsoring employer and whether the scheme had registered with the registrar of occupational and personal pension schemes.

Mr Lilley also gave further details of the trust fund which has been set up to allow financial institutions and other private sector donors to pay contributions for the benefit of Maxwell pensioners.

The Maxwell Pensioners trust fund would be a non-charitable trust and the trustees would have discretion on how and to what extent to benefit any particular scheme.

Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, who chaired the select committee's enquiry into pension funds, welcomed the government's response to its report. "There can be few select committee reports that have received such an endorsement from the government."

Other members of the government's enquiry are: Professor Tony Atkinson, professor of economics at the London School of Economics; David Berridge, chief executive, Scottish Equitable Life Assurance; Harvie Brown, actuary and principal, William Mercer Fraser Ltd; Bryan Hines, formerly general manager, Insurance and Investments, ICI plc; Stuart James, partner, Rowe and Maw; Terence Libby, chairman and chief executive, Morrisflex Ltd; Alastair Ross-Goobey, chief investment strategist, James Capel; Patricia Triggs, partner, KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock; Sue Ward, freelance journalist and researcher on pensions issues.

Chairman quits, page 19

Call to bar Maxwell flotation advisers

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

FRANK Dobson, the shadow energy secretary, yesterday named a list of firms which he said should be barred from advising on the privatisation of British Coal and British Rail.

Mr Dobson said that the companies should be prevented from giving advice pending the results of an investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry into the flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers.

Each of the companies was involved in the flotation, Mr Dobson told the Commons, and he said that "a villain" such as Robert Maxwell could not have stolen money from pensioners without the connivance of others in the City. He could not have moved his money without other people taking part or "averting their gaze". Mr Dobson included in his list Clifford Chance, solicitors, Linklaters, solicitors, Coopers & Lybrand, auditors, Salomon Bros, investment bankers, Samuel Montagu, merchant bankers, and Smith New Court, the stockbrokers.

He also listed other advisers involved in the privatisation of the electricity industry who had been criticised previously in DTI reports and wanted them to be prevented from advising in the next privatisation round.

Labelling the government's pensions record "a scandal", Mr Dobson called for the enabling bill on coal and rail privatisation to be amended so that staff representatives would have to be consulted before advisers were appointed.

The British Coal pension fund was worth £12 billion, ten times more than the likely self-off value of the industry's assets. This "kitty" was of great value, not only to pensioners, widows and current staff but also to the potential purchasers. Unless the government was careful, this would become "swag for the thieves" people in the City who have already stolen so much money from Britain's pensioners.



Called to account: firms involved with Maxwell, left, should not advise on privatisation, says Frank Dobson, right



Kaufman favourite to win plum job

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AS THE battle for top places on the Commons committees intensifies, Gerald Kaufman is emerging as favourite to land the chairmanship of the new committee of national heritage.

Seats on the new body to shadow the so-called "ministry of fun" are fast becoming the most sought-after in the committee corridor. MPs foresee months of being forced to travel overseas to study other nations' state-run lotteries and visiting sports and arts events.

The process for choosing new members and chairmen is private, with some initial negotiations in the various whips' offices about "suitable" candidates and the eventual sanctioning by the committee of selection. Once members are chosen, they elect their own chairman.

Mr Kaufman, who will step down as shadow foreign secretary next month when the new Labour leader is elected, appears to have the support of his whips, with no objections raised from the Conservative whips. His love of the arts ranges from opera, in common with the national heritage minister David Mellor, to Hollywood musicals.

Tony Newton, leader of the Commons, has agreed with the other parties to press ahead with the setting up of the committee system before the summer recess. However, many Labour MPs are torn between putting forward their names for committees and banking on frontbench posts from the new Labour leader next month.

One of the toughest fights is over the chairmanship of the trade and industry committee

following the retirement at the general election of Kenneth Warren. Labour whips look certain to lose their case for a Labour chairman to reflect the government's reduced majority.

Objections are voiced by some Labour MPs at the prospect of a bid for the post from Conservative MP Keith Hampson, who has been on the committee for five years, as he was one of Michael Heseltine's lieutenants during the 1990 Tory party leadership campaign. That leaves the favourites among existing Tory committee members as the former parliamentary secretary to the old Board of Trade, Sir Anthony Grant, and the MP for Wirral South, Barry Porter. However, the post might eventually go to Michael Clark, who has just lost his battle to retain the

Commons energy committee, which he chaired.

Another new face on the trade and industry committee is likely to be the Scottish Labour MP Adam Ingram, Neil Kinnock's long-serving parliamentary aide.

Former ministers Kenneth Baker and Tim Renton are understood to have toyed with the idea of the chairmanship of the Treasury committee. But an existing member, John Watts, Slough's Tory MP, has strongest backing.

Frank Field is expected to hold on to the chairmanship of the social security committee unless he secures a shadow cabinet post. To the Tory whips' anguish, their maverick MP Nicholas Winteron looks likely to remain chairman of the health committee unless the post is handed to Labour.



Commons defends payments

Newspaper reports criticising proposed increases in MPs' office allowances, and their use of family members as staff, were rejected by MPs from both sides of the Commons. The Top Salaries Review Board is expected to recommend a 25 per cent rise in the payments, from £29,000 to about £37,000 a year.

Chris Mullin, Labour MP for Sunderland South, said a number of unscrupulous newspapers had been seeking to pretend that the allowance for office costs was an extension of their £31,000 salaries. Many MPs, he said, subsidised office costs in the interests of giving constituents quality service. An announcement about the allowance is expected in two or three weeks.

Crash stop

There has been a marked fall in accidents on London roads where priority red routes have been introduced, Steve Norris, London's transport minister, said at question time. Overall, accidents along pilot red routes were down 36 per cent, and bus journey times had been cut by 10 per cent, he said.

Safe driving

The number of road accidents is running at the 1948 level despite the huge increase in traffic, John MacGregor, transport secretary, said at Commons question time.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Defence prime minister. Boundary Commissions bill, remaining stages. Motions on select committees. Lords (2.30): Judicial Pensions and Retirement bill, committee.

It took courage to stake 2,400 million pounds in the space of a few years on achieving a leading role in the European commercial vehicle market-especially considering that it involved the total rethink of every aspect from basic research and vehicle design to manufacturing methods and logistics. It was a process which would change the very concept of the road transport vehicle.

And courage was certainly one of the corporate values needed to forge companies from six different countries into a single integrated organisation while retaining dynamism and flexibility at all levels.

But perhaps the most courageous move of all was to look beyond 'off-the-shelf' solutions to a modular design of sub-systems and specialised components allowing each customer to tailor the vehicle in order to maximise his productivity.

Behind these courageous decisions lies a clear vision of the market and its future evolution, a vision which has guided the strategic planning of IVECO and the whole of the FIAT Group. It was essential to the success of a complicated and ambitious industrial project destined to play a major role in the new Europe.

Thank you IVECO. Where you have led, others will follow.

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Major challenges Tory Euro-sceptics

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

BRITAIN cannot afford to sit on the sidelines and watch others shape the European Community, John Major told the Commons yesterday.

Facing questions after reporting on the Lisbon summit, the prime minister declared: "There is no alternative while we remain a member of the European Community to us being at the centre of the Community and exercising influence."

With prominent Tory critics clearly in mind, he said: "It may be an ambition of some people to leave the Community, in which case they should say so and make their position entirely clear. If that is the position, I think they might also explain what might happen, as a result of that occurring, to inward investment, to jobs, to prosperity and to much else."

Mr Major emphasised that Britain would be able to press

on during its six-month presidency with drawing up the mandates for negotiations to enlarge the Community and he confirmed Britain's intention of continuing to oppose any increase in the EC's "own resources" funding ceiling, at least for the next two years.

In response to some probing questioning from his own benches over his claim that the Lisbon summit had formalised the concept of subsidiarity, leaving more to be done by national governments, Mr Major agreed that the concept of subsidiarity would be sharpened up while Britain was in the EC chair.

There were cheers from some Tories when George Walden (Buckingham, C) said the Commons lost 99 per cent of its audience every time subsidiarity was mentioned, and added: "I would encourage you to fight for a legally binding clarification to the

Maastricht treaty in order that we can understand what it means."

Mr Major was noticeably more robust in response to the Euro-sceptics than on some previous occasions. But he maintained that the return to the Commons of the bill to ratify the Maastricht treaty would have to await clarification of the Danish position. Asked by Labour MP Dale Campbell-Savours if he would resign should the Maastricht bill be lost, Mr Major replied: "We shan't be losing it in this House."

Neil Kinnock said there was "real inconsistency" between the Lisbon communiqué's commitment to a "social dimension" and the government's opposition to it. He asked why unemployment had not been discussed at the summit and urged Mr Major to take a lead in promoting ways of tackling it at future EC summits.

The weekend intervention from Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven coloured many of the Commons exchanges. Peter Hain (Neath, Lab) asked Mr Major: "When you bullied Baroness Thatcher into signing the ERM, did she insist then that the pound was at far too high a level?" Mr Major replied: "I can only assume you have not met my noble friend."

Quentin Davies (Stamford and Spalding, C) attacked Lady Thatcher's stand, saying: "It would be more than a little perverse for anyone concerned with national sovereignty to promote the Single European Act in one parliament, which makes no provision for subsidiarity, and in the next parliament to attack the Maastricht treaty, which does include subsidiarity, as 'a treaty too far.'" Mr Major replied: "I think I am able to agree with you."

Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) talked of a "cacophony of inconsistency" from down the Lords, which he said was confirmation that "rarely are the best wines made with sour grapes".

Matthew Parris, page 18

Farmers revive natural landscape

By Craig Seton

A FARMER pledged to stop using fertilisers and almost halve the stock of 2,500 sheep on his land yesterday when he signed a ten-year agreement under a scheme that is designed to revive the natural landscape of the English countryside and increase public access.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, was on hand when Tony Good, of Warborough Farm, Letcombe Regis, near Wantage, close to the Ridgeway in Oxfordshire, signed a deal under the Countryside Commission's pilot countryside stewardship project. The project gives farmers and landowners financial incentives to introduce conservation management measures.

The £25 million scheme began last year and is being extended to incorporate agreements to restore and conserve historic landscapes, including ancient parkland, strip farm systems, water meadows and pastureland. Old orchards in need of restoration may also qualify, helping the survival of old varieties of apples. New payments have been introduced to increase access to land for the disabled and for schools and colleges on field studies.

The stewardship project was introduced at a time when more land was being taken out of agricultural production, and so far agreements have been signed with about 900 landowners on 30,000 hectares, more than a quarter involving increased public access.

Mr Good, 62, will change the nature of farming activity on 170 hectares of his farm, which is more than 90 per cent of the land he has farmed for 20 years. He will convert arable land to permanent pasture by sowing traditional downland grasses, reduce the number



STEPHEN MARKESON

Save it with flowers: Mr Howard takes his conservation message to the country

of his sheep from 2,500 to 1,500, stop using fertilisers and open up to public access a previously cultivated area containing the remains of an Iron Age fort dating from 300BC.

Mr Howard said yesterday that stewardship was an initiative in which Britain led most of the world and which would make a significant contribution to efforts to enhance the envi-

ronment. "If you want people to behave in a way that is imaginative and that will help the environment, then it is helpful to give encouragement and some incentives. The countryside is a place of work that has to be respected and the best way to try to reconcile the various interests is to work in partnership."

Mr Good said that as sheep farming had become

less stable he had decided that a stewardship scheme was economically acceptable. He said: "I will continue farming, but I shall be farming for the benefit of the public at large."

The Countryside Commission hopes that other farmers and landowners along the Ridgeway, an area of natural beauty, will sign similar agreements to give greater public access.

Move to abolish land tax attacked

By Michael Hornsby
AGRICULTURE
CORRESPONDENT

PROPOSALS to abolish inheritance tax for owner-occupiers of agricultural land were attacked yesterday as a give-away that would hinder public access to the country and weaken protection of rare landscapes and wildlife.

English Nature and the Countryside Commission, the government's chief advisers on conservation and rural affairs, as well as the Ramblers' Association, said they were alarmed that no environmental or access conditions were attached.

The tax change, proposed by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, in the Budget, would abolish inheritance tax for all who have owned and occupied their land for at least seven years and farmed it for at least two. The measures are expected to come under fire when an all-party Commons standing committee discusses the 1992 finance bill today.

Landowners now qualify for 50 per cent relief on inheritance tax. They can get 100 per cent exemption for "heritage land" of unusual scenic or historical value but only if they enter into legally binding restraints on how the land is used and guarantee "reasonable access".

Jerry Pearlman, the ramblers' legal adviser, said yesterday: "The government now proposes to do away with that condition and to allow all landowners full relief, without getting anything in return for the public. It would be the tax give-away of the century."

English Nature said that owners of sites of special scientific interest would benefit twice, qualifying for inheritance tax exemption and compensation for accepting curbs on agricultural development. The Country Landowners Association said it was delighted by the proposed tax change.

Ministers' spending bids scrutinised

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

WILLIAM Waldegrave, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is scrutinising spending bids from all departments to ensure that they are not using the citizen's charter as an excuse for extra funds. Mr Waldegrave has already attended meetings with Michael Portillo, the Treasury chief secretary, to go through the bids.

As minister responsible for the citizen's charter, Mr Waldegrave is adamant that any spending on elements of the charter should be justified and represent value for money. In some cases, he is looking for cash savings.

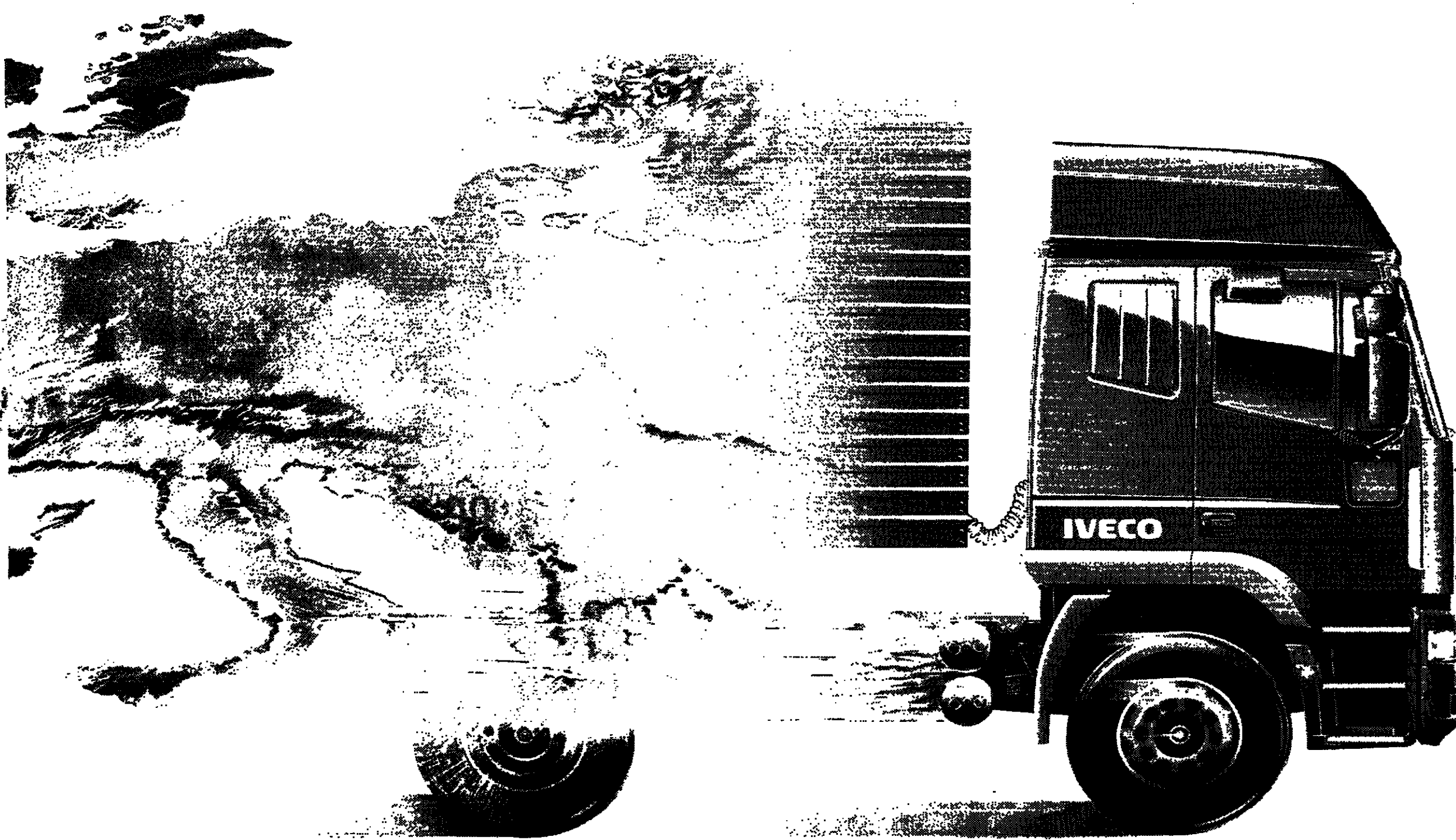
It is understood that several departments have put in spending plans which include significant bids for the citizen's charter, one of John Major's key policy initiatives. Mr Portillo and Mr Waldegrave are said to be suspicious that departments

are trying to get extra money in a tight public spending year, which they have no intention of using on the citizen's charter.

Mr Waldegrave said he had a "veto" on employing citizen's charter arguments to bid for more money. "There may be some attempts to do that," he said at the time.

Departments, knowing that they are unlikely to get extra money for anything this year, have argued that more staff and administrative back-up are needed for setting up many of the schemes connected with the charter.

Although Mr Waldegrave's task is to cut out unnecessary spending, he will be keen to see that the prime minister's brainchild does not fall victim to Mr Portillo's knife. Mr Waldegrave has made it clear that there will be no retreat from the policy, with a white paper expected this autumn.



SPIRITS OF SARAJEVO RESIDENTS PLUMMET AMID SMOULDERING RUINS OVER DELAY IN RELIEF OPERATION

Sniper fire hampers airport takeover

By TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE, OLLI KIVINEN IN HELSINKI
AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ONE THOUSAND Canadian United Nations soldiers were on standby in Croatia last night after the decision of the security council in New York to send them to Sarajevo to take control of the city's airport. The security council met as Serbs prepared to hand over the airport to UN control formally.

Following the jubilation felt by the besieged citizens of Sarajevo on Sunday when it was visited by President Mitterrand of France, spirits plummeted yesterday. Two French air force planes carrying relief supplies remained on the ground at the Croatian port of Split. UN officials said that Sarajevo airport was still unsafe and that it would take several days for it to be secured. "We cannot advise flights to come when we cannot assure their safety," said

UNITED NATIONS

Adnan Adel Razek, a member of the peacekeeping force. Mr Adel Razek said that he expected a symbolic flag-raising ceremony when the airport was actually handed over but pointed out: "There is a difference between controlling and running the airport and controlling the strategic points around it."

General Lewis MacKenzie, the UN commander in the city, said that plans for an interim team of 30 soldiers to move into the airport was being hampered by indiscriminate sniper fire. Four foreign journalists were reported to have been wounded in the airport vicinity yesterday. But in a significant advance, General MacKenzie secured the written agree-

ment of the Bosnian presidency that it would not attempt to seize Serb positions once the Serbs pulled back.

Clearly alarmed by the prospect of military intervention, Serb forces, according to the UN, have been implementing their part of the agreement to pull back their weaponry so as to open the airport. Over the past few days officials, including Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, have accused the Bosnian government side of breaching the ceasefire.

The allegation was rejected by Major Dervo Harbinja, a spokesman for the Bosnian defence force. He said: "Wouldn't it be crazy, if Mitterrand did what he did for us, to begin shooting when we are just steps from getting what we want? Politically it would be a mistake to organise any kind of attack at the airport... we need help, and help means the airport."

The handover of Sarajevo airport will be a great strategic loss to Serb forces who have recently been forced out of some parts of the city and are retreating in the face of a determined Bosnian Croat offensive in several parts of the republic. The Croatian government is believed to have given considerable help to Bosnian Croat forces while Serbs have been weakened since they lost the backing, but only a part of the weaponry, of the Yugoslav army.

Internationally, the Serbs' isolation continues to deepen. Facing certain expulsion at next week's summit meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), Yugoslavia yesterday formally withdrew from the 52-nation meeting in Helsinki. The rump state is also likely to be expelled from the Council of Europe's parliamentary assembly, after Miguel Angel Martinez, its president, spoke of the need to express the members' disgust with the ethnic fighting in Yugoslavia.

Belgrade's decision to withdraw from the CSCE removes a potential diplomatic embarrassment at next week's meeting. Several delegations, including the American one, had made clear that their heads of state could not possibly sit at the same table with a representative of Yugoslavia.

The Yugoslav delegation had already announced that Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, was not coming to Helsinki because he did not like the CSCE. The statement said that some delegations had adopted a position that violated their country's sovereignty and the principles of mutual respect and equality.

For the past three days Sarajevo has been relatively quiet, but yesterday afternoon residents said they could hear explosions in the distance. "They are just playing on our nerves," said a Muslim woman in the city, which has been besieged and pounded by Serb forces for almost three months. "Since Mitterrand came there has been no information on the news; we just have no idea what is going on," she said. Unleavened bread, absent from shops at the weekend, was on sale yesterday.

Reports from local aid agencies say that the situation in cities such as Vares, Visoko and Breza in Bosnia and Herzegovina is disastrous. Hospitals have run out of medicines and the citizenry are starving because relief shipments cannot reach the cities under siege by Croatian and Serbian forces.



Suffering city: Bosnian Serb artillery fire, striking home in the Muslim quarter of Sarajevo on Friday, is shown in this photograph released yesterday

Man of peace soldiers on to cast off shackles of Belgrade

FROM EVE-ANN PRENTICE IN NOVI SAD

FOR a man of peace, Nenad Canak knows an awful lot about guns. "You need one trigger, one eye and no brain," says the Serb anti-war campaigner and leader of the Social Democratic Party in Vojvodina.

On the table in front of him at his home in Novi Sad lies a Kalashnikov bullet drilled through and adapted as a novelty ballpoint pen. "Look, it really works," he says. Asked whether he had been given enough weapons training when he was arrested and rushed to the Croatian war front for holding an anti-war rally in Belgrade, he shrugs and takes on an air of Clint Eastwood around the eyes: "I am a Serb. I don't need to be told how to use a gun."

Mr Canak is one of the growing band of intellectuals, students and businessmen seeking the overthrow of President Milosevic of Serbia. He also wields his beloved Voj-

VOJVODINA

dina, the fertile province in northern Serbia, to regain the autonomy that Belgrade revoked in 1988. These demands for the loosening of political and economic ties are helping to stoke fears of civil war in Belgrade, which already has to keep a tight rein on the rebellious Albanian-dominated province of Kosovo in the south. The Serbian regime badly needs both provinces: Kosovo for its coal and vast electricity-generating capacity and Vojvodina for its oil and fertile farmland.

Vojvodina has almost as much arable land as Belgium. The Netherlands and Luxembourg put together, set in lands as flat as the Lincolnshire fens. It provides a fifth of Serbia's oil needs, more than enough to keep the army going. It also has a skein of

ethnic strands. Nearly three-fifths of Vojvodina's two million people are Serbs and about a fifth are Hungarian; and they live alongside a mixture of Croats, Romanians, Ruthenians and Slovaks.

But the war in Croatia and Bosnia has taken a huge toll of the province's young men. More than 150,000 have been drafted into the army and casualties have been high. Havoc, fear and drunkenness are reported to plague the Yugoslav national army. Mr Canak says that even the dead have been issued with call-up papers.

Mr Canak's initial fears after he was sent to look on the border between Serbia and Croatia centred on his fellow troops, many of them antagonistic to his anti-war campaign. But he "got hold of some wine which had been liberated. I am an excellent cook and I won some of them over by preparing food."

Milosevic rejects demands to quit

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

PRESIDENT Milosevic of Serbia yesterday rejected opposition demands for him to resign, saying that he had a duty to the people who had voted for him to stay on.

Mr Milosevic spoke as several thousand people calling for him to go demonstrated in central Belgrade for the second day. On Sunday, tens of thousands joined the opposition rally but organisers said they were disappointed by the turnout and that only a thousand had stayed on overnight to keep the protest going.

Yesterday a choir of Orthodox nuns, sweltering in black habits, sang to the crowd but there was no disguising the mood of despondency that had set in. A plastics worker, Milovan, said: "I expected half of Belgrade to come. Serbs want to change things in a day and if they can't they go home and wait for another chance. The problem is that this is our last chance."

Milovan, from the town of Uzice, was laid off last week as Serbia's economic collapse, coupled with the effect of

SERBIA

international sanctions, meant that his plant was forced to operate with barely 20 per cent of its workforce.

Other protesters who had come from the provinces said they were angry that while they had spent the night sleeping in tents or in the open, the people of Belgrade who had come to Sunday's protest had then gone home. They accused others of following the whole event on television as though it had been an entertainment.

Milan Nikolic, a trade union leader, said that economic collapse had practically brought Rakovica, an industrial town close to Belgrade, to a standstill. "It has been torn apart. It does not work," he said, adding that workers, whose support is crucial if President Milosevic is to be brought down, "are unfortunately still unaware of their situation. If they do not understand, let them stay in darkness, but let no one say I did not try to take them out of it."

Opposition leaders say that because independent television can only be received within a ten-mile radius of central Belgrade the vast majority of Serbs do not realise how deep a crisis their country is in. Srđja Trifkovic, the chief of staff of the Serbian pretender, Crown Prince Alexander, who spoke on Sunday, said that he had been dismayed by "the indifference of the people of Belgrade who behave as if everything is normal, totally oblivious of what awaits them."

Serbia's ruling Socialist party declared that the rally was a flop and yesterday Mr Milosevic was hoping that the demonstration would either fizzle out or shrink to such a level that the riot police could move in.

Waving Serbian flags with the motto "Freedom or Death", nationalists rubbed shoulders with liberals, republicans and monarchists. But behind the scenes the bickering had started as the leaders of the opposition coalition accused each other of making mistakes and disagreed about what to do next.

Tudjman exploits fascist heritage

By ROGER BOYES EAST EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

CROATIA is celebrating the first birthday of its modern statehood and marking a year of crisis war.

Despite the ceasefire on January 3, the Croats have never really stopped fighting. Croat civilians come under daily Serbian sniper fire in western Slavonia, while Croatian militias are battling for territory and influence in western Herzegovina.

But the most disturbing problem, understandably overlooked by those who concentrate on Serb aggression, is how far the war has distorted Croatian society. Zagreb's

CROATIA

hopes for speedy acceptance by the International Monetary Fund and an influx of Western credits have crumbled over the past six months. The hundreds of thousands of refugees from Bosnia and embattled parts of Croatia, the crippling of tourism on the Adriatic coast, and the uncertainty about Croatian airspace has seriously retarded Croatia's progress to a market economy.

It is no longer possible to speak of a free press in Zagreb: newspaper editors, television producers and the Croatian news agency are calibrating their political line with that of the ruling Croatian Democratic Community of President Tudjman.

After declaring independence a year ago, Mr Tudjman dismissed a Serbian propaganda claim that he was trying to re-establish the pro-fascist Ustashi state. Yet the Croatian political spectrum has shifted noticeably to the right in the past months. Croatian television has done little to dispense a sense of uneasiness about the government's political direction. Mirjana Pavelic, the youngest daughter of Hitler's ally, Ante Pavelic, is given much air time and column space. She has reactivated the HOP, the Croatian Liberation Movement which her father established in 1955 and which favours full rehabilitation of the Ustashi state. The party has been officially registered in Zagreb since March.

During the war last autumn there was open criticism of Mr Tudjman's shortcomings as a military leader. Nowadays, to attack the president is regarded as unpatriotic.

Some commentators believe Mr Tudjman is playing a game, positioning himself for elections. Now he can tap popular right-wing sentiment, but closer to polling day he will shift to the centre. That has yet to happen.



Tudjman: playing a pre-election game

Refugees flood into city of tears

Hungry women and children in a hall without windows: John Holland visits a centre for war victims in Split

SPLIT, once a Dalmatian coastal town popular with the package holidaymaker from Britain and Germany, has been deserted by the usual sun-seeking crowds and taken over by tens of thousands of refugees, victims of the ethnic war raging in the countryside of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

They arrive from places such as Tuzla, Travnik, and especially Doboj, a town of 50,000 residents before the war, which has lost 20,000 people fleeing in fear of their lives. Every day which brings a new convoy of refugee buses and crumpled lorries turns Split into the city of the weeping woman, of the hungry, sleepy-eyed child who gets his answer when he calls for his father. It is, for the older ones, about losing hope that the world remembers anything about Bosnia other than the urban terrorism being carried out in Sarajevo.

At the converted main sports hall, its windows shattered by fighting earlier this year between Yugoslav naval forces and Croatian defenders, more than 1,000 refugees now live in increasingly squalid conditions. "Sarajevo gets all the attention, a visit by the French president, the sympathy of so many aid organisations," a young woman, holding a little girl on her knee, said. "What about us, do we not count?"

While they sympathise with the plight of Sarajevo many refugees here, most of them poor and rural in their ways, increasingly feel that if Sarajevo is saved, then the larger story of Bosnia's misery will be forgotten by the world's policemen. An even larger tragedy is unfolding in the countryside, where the warring factions, especially the Serbs and Croats, are busy trying to pull apart mixed communities to divide the country along as ethnically pure a line as possible. Inevitably those who suffer the most are the mothers



and children. In Split, 90 per cent of the refugees belong to this category; about 75 per cent of those are Slavic Muslims.

With no savings and almost nothing except the clothes they wear, all of them feel lost and trapped. There are an estimated 60,000 refugees in Split, a sun-filled but unattractive city of 200,000 on the Adriatic. They live in tent camps, small hotels and, in lucky cases, in private homes. "We all wish to God to get back to our homes," one young mother named Anna said, clutching her two small children, Benjamin and Sara. A woman in her 70s sitting next to Anna opened a plastic bag that contained a few scraps of meat she said she was given by local relief workers to feed herself and two grandchildren that day. "It was never this bad in the [second world] war and now we have been reduced to living like dogs," she said.

As temperatures rise above 80°F, so does the threat of contagious disease. There are only three doctors to look after the special problems of young children and their mothers. The sports hall has only four lavatories.

Reports from local aid agencies say that the situation in cities such as Vares, Visoko and Breza in Bosnia and Herzegovina is disastrous. Hospitals have run out of medicines and the citizenry are starving because relief shipments cannot reach the cities under siege by Croatian and Serbian forces.

French town votes to ban immigrants

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN HAUTMONT, NORTHERN FRANCE

JUST 30 yards of tarmac separates the Catholic church from the *mairie* in the centre of Hautmont. On Sunday, residents of the northern French town chose to follow the mayor rather than the *cure*. The issue on polling day was neither abortion nor divorce: it centred around xenophobia.

Joel Willmonte, the mayor, wanted a mandate to demand that the French government ban North Africans from coming to live in his town. On the day, despite pleas from priests, Socialists and communists, 5,488 people, 87.2 per cent of the voting population, supported the call. A middle-aged woman outside the Shopi supermarket said: "People here are sick of the foreigners. The ones from the Maghreb. It is normal that we voted like we did."

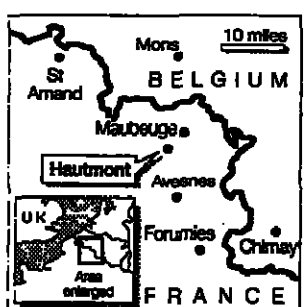
M Willmonte's election literature avoided overtly racist comments, and focused on the social problems of Haut-

mont, which is itself little more than a suburb of Maubeuge. Unemployment is running at 25 per cent and the town is recognised as being in need of industrial development and improved educational facilities.

The boarded-up houses that line Rue Sainte Anne, the "for sale" signs covered in at least a year's grime, confirm that Hautmont is going nowhere fast. Inside the local council there is little political debate. Of the 33 seats, 24 are held by a right-wing coalition which supported the referendum.

Next door to the chamber, in La Reserve cafe, there was a lively discussion yesterday. Several young *beurs*, as the French call those of North African descent, were arguing about the outcome of the referendum. "They want us to go, but where are we supposed to go? This is where we are from," Selim said.

In the seven days running up to the poll, an unprece-



dent number of car windshields were smashed in a wave of vandalism. The young Arabs living in Hautmont insist that their community had nothing to do with it, despite the belief by much of the white population that the culprits were North Africans.

"I am convinced it was the National Front who was behind it. I didn't see any of them doing it but it suited them to raise the tension in the town so that everyone would vote 'yes' in the referendum," said Farid. A large number of the 15 per cent of the voters who are of North African origin regarded the

referendum as a sham, refusing to vote. The referendum has been greeted with concern by many in French politics. Kofi Yamgnane, the secretary of state for immigrants, who is himself a naturalised French citizen, accused M Willmonte of "playing with fire." "This is supermarket demagoguery," M Yamgnane said.

Paris: The only mayor of a French town to belong to the extreme-right, anti-immigration National Front of Jean-Marie Le Pen was voted out of office in an election on Sunday. Charles de Chambrun was ousted in a special election in Saint-Gilles in the southern Gard region, near the city of Nîmes, by a wide democratic alliance including communists and conservative neo-Gaullists. The alliance won 58 per cent of the vote.

The National Front advocates repatriating many immigrants of North African origin and giving white French citizens preference in employment, housing and welfare. (Reuters)

Green hero opts for charms of Rome

John Phillips and George Brock report on Ripa di Meana and his marchesa

THE fun-loving lifestyle of the Marchesa Marina Ripa di Meana may have tarnished the image of her husband, Carlo, and influenced his weekend resignation as a European commissioner to become the Italian environment minister, commentators said yesterday.

"At the European Community he did so well that Prince Charles and our Greens and Radicals held his hand," *La Stampa* newspaper said. It described the Tuscan politician, 63, as "handsome, noble and always elegant". But the Turin daily added, "on the image level there was the whirlwind effect of Marina with whom he has been married for around ten years. She is a cyclone who seems born to enjoy herself, no matter what the cost."

Il Messaggero of Rome said that Giuliano Amato, the prime minister, had pleased the Italian Green party by appointing Signor Ripa di Meana. "He was the environment minister whom the Greens let it be known they appreciated," the newspaper

said. Signor Amato is known to be hoping desperately that the Greens will support his slender four-party coalition in crucial parliamentary votes.

An erotic comic strip written by the 50-year-old Marchesa and based on her many loves was published in Rome this month. Earlier this year, Signor Ripa di Meana sought unsuccessfully to prevent the broadcast of a television soap opera, *Piazza di Spagna*, that was widely believed to be based on his *dolce vita* lifestyle with his wife in Rome.

La Stampa quoted the outgoing commissioner as confessing he was never surprised by "the eyebrows that are raised. We are each of us anti-conformist... taking her with me on official occasions has been a challenge."

Signor Ripa di Meana was quoted as saying he was "surprised and moved" by his appointment as environment minister and reportedly imm-

mediately resigned his job in Brussels. But pundits hinted that his acceptance of a junior post in what most likely will be a short-lived government of transition was something of a comedown.

Il Messaggero noted that, as EC environment commissioner, Signor Ripa di Meana made himself talked about, with his aggressive enforcement of anti-pollution standards. Last month, encouraged by environmental groups, he refused to participate in the world conference at Rio de Janeiro, judging it "unproductive".

A battery of pollution directives were in place or in the works before Signor Ripa di Meana took over the Commission's environment portfolio in 1989. The ingredient he brought to the job was a talent for marketing his policies and charming his opponents into submission. A genuine commitment to

a radical green agenda and aristocratic insouciance gave Signor Ripa di Meana licence to speak and act as he chose. Although he could not match Jacques Delors' grasp of detail or economics, Signor Ripa di Meana has been one of the few members of the Commission to openly disagree with the powerful French president.

The Italian tended to treat M Delors rather as an indulgent uncle might humour an over-earnest child. He sniped at M Delors' ambition to condition Europe's economy to compete with other global giants. "I want a certain type of Europe," Signor Ripa di Meana said in a recent interview with *The Times*. "I like the different flavours. I don't want too competitive a Europe. Our societies are being shaped by our competition with Japan and America. I hate Euro-banalities."

Signor Ripa di Meana has transformed the job of environment commissioner: his successors will be tempted to repeat his trick of turning it into a global platform.

هكزنم الاصل

Moscow toughens army image

Afghanistan veteran gets key defence job

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

WITH the violence in Moldova and South Ossetia continuing unabated, Russia has announced two senior military appointments that will give the Russian army and defence establishment a tougher image in regional hotspots. Strange though it may seem, the appointments may also offer Russia the best chance of keeping the former Soviet army out of local wars.

General Boris Gromov, who led the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan and then made several abortive tries to enter politics, was named a deputy defence minister, while Major-General Aleksandr Lebed, a hero of the Russian resistance in last August's coup, took command of the 14th army stationed in Moldova. The previous commander, General Yuri Netchayev, was dismissed.

The two appointments are nicely balanced to appeal to two distinct constituencies in the armed forces. General Gromov has political views that veer towards the conservative and nationalist. General Lebed, whose paratroop division defied orders from the rebel emergency committee and oversaw the defence of the Russian parliament building during the August coup, can be seen as a Russian loyalist of Yeltsin's com-

plexion. While the appointments suggest toughness, they can also be seen as part of a calculated move by the Russian leadership to maintain control over increasingly frustrated and unbiddable armies. Both men command widespread regard as professional soldiers who show concern for their men and are respected in return. Their chief task now may be to mastermind an orderly retreat.

General Gromov is ideally qualified for the job. He commanded not only the retreat from Afghanistan, but also the emergency withdrawal of former Soviet troops from Nagorno-Karabakh this year, and knows what is involved. His reputation as a hardliner will allow conservatives in the Russian establishment and in the army high command to sleep easily.

In a press conference immediately after his appointment was announced, General Lebed suggested that his policy would be a more positive brand of neutrality and defence, but that these priorities would remain. "The army will continue to preserve its neutrality, but the quality of its neutrality will change. It will be armed neutrality... the army is sufficiently strong to repel whomever we want, but if no one touches us,

then we won't touch them, I give my pledge."

Ten days ago the Russian government passed a resolution allowing all troops in troubled areas to use firearms to defend themselves and army property. Previously such a dispensation had applied only to the armed forces in the Transcaucasus.

In a further indication of rising discontent among Russian troops serving outside Russia, General Pavel Grachev, the defence minister, yesterday issued an appeal for "courage and restraint" to Russian conscripts stationed in the Baltic states, the Caucasus and Moldova. Describing their situation as "profoundly tragic", General Grachev said: "In conditions of civil chaos, clashes and violence, only the army is able to protect thousands of lives... to protect the sanctity of friendship and the fraternity of nations... Show firmness and restraint. Do not give in to provocations."



Man for the ministry: General Boris Gromov, whose views tend to the hardline and nationalist

Juan Carlos takes time off for a Swiss fitness course

The furor over King Juan Carlos's recent mysterious disappearance to Switzerland, which excited gossip about a possible romantic tryst, dissipated yesterday when it was revealed that he had been on a gruelling fitness course (Helena de Bertodano writes from Madrid).

The king stayed in the Carlton Hotel in St Moritz, where he attended the controversial cycling and general fitness programme run by the German trainer, Gunther Traub, for rich middle-aged executives. It is criticised by doctors, who say that failure to submit participants to previous medical check-ups led to the death of an Italian army colonel. Speculation broke out last week when it was discovered that the king had torn up his appointments timetable, which included the swearing in of a foreign minister and a palace garden party, to vanish without explanation to Switzerland.

The leading liberation theologian, Leonardo Boff, a Brazilian Franciscan priest, has decided to leave the Roman

Catholic priesthood and the Franciscan Order.

Father Boff, who has twice been punished by the Vatican for his writings in which he has often criticised the church leadership, told the newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* that he had "reached his limit". The newspaper published his letter explaining his decision, in which he emphasised Vatican censorship of his views.

"Doctrinal power... is cruel and merciless," he said in the letter. "It forgets nothing, forgives everything, and demands everything." He intends to continue his theological work as a layman.

Evander Holyfield and his friend, the rap singer Hammer, may join investors hoping to buy the Houston Rockets. The *Houston Chronicle* reported that the heavyweight boxing champion and Hammer are part of a group that bid \$45 million for the team.

Robert Kuok, the Malaysian Hongkong tycoon, has clinched his third big deal in China in four days by

signing a \$167 million contract to develop land near Peking's railway station. Mr Kuok, whose family runs the Shangri-La international hotel chain, will team with a Peking property company to develop 11.1 acres of property for office, residential, and commercial use.

Tom Selleck, who four years ago gave up his CBS television series *Magnum P.I.* to pursue a film career, is talking about bringing the role to the big screen. He has been calling his former co-stars John Hillerman, Larry Manetti, and Roger Mosley to see if they would be interested.

Despite family feuding over the succession to the tsar's throne, seven princes of the Romanov family returned to an active role in Russian life, creating a royal foundation to aid a homeland none of them was born in. Led by Prince Nicholas Romanov, 69, the family's oldest living male, the princes expressed support for Russia's budding democracy and promised that the Romanovs will steer clear of politics.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Estonians rebuff Russians

Vilnius: Estonians have voted in a referendum to adopt the first new constitution in the former Soviet Union, but have refused to extend the vote to applicants for citizenship (Anatol Lieven writes).

A tally showed 52.5 per cent were against giving voting rights to non-citizens, with 46.3 per cent in favour. This is considered a rebuff to the 38 per cent Russian minority, most of whom have not yet been given citizenship because they moved to Estonia under Soviet rule.

A naturalisation law for non-citizens has been passed, but there are fears that its application will be such as to exclude most Russians, who must know Estonian to win citizenship.

Bombs defused

Barcelona: Spanish police defused three bombs in Barcelona and Gerona and said they believed Catalan separatists were responsible. Two of the bombs were placed outside branches of the Banesto bank. Seven arrests have been made. (Reuters)

Aylwin wins

Santiago: The ruling centre-left coalition of President Aylwin has won more than 53 per cent of votes in the first municipal elections to be held in Chile in 21 years. The two main right-wing parties together won 29.8 per cent. (Reuters)

Wall brides

Peking: Twenty couples, including one from Hong Kong, were married in a joint wedding on China's Great Wall. The bride from Hong Kong was carried in a traditional sedan chair while the other couples had a more modern ceremony. (AP)

Sexual order

Berlin: Homosexual relationships in the German army must be penalised because they weaken authority and sow jealousy and mistrust, a military court has ruled in the case of a sergeant-major demoted after having anal sex with a private. (AFP)

Thai poll set

Bangkok: Anand Panyarachun, the Thai prime minister, has chosen September 13 for the general election. Brought in this month as interim prime minister after weeks of turmoil, he said that parliament would be dissolved today. (Reuters)

Hopping in

Sydney: New South Wales plans to follow Tasmania and South Australia and legalise the eating of kangaroo meat. The agriculture ministry said yesterday kangaroos could be kept down their numbers could be sold for human consumption. (Reuters)

Oil may finance a Baku victory

Azerbaijan's natural treasure may rescue Karabakh exiles, Robert Seely writes in Baku

A mile from the dilapidated elegance of Baku's waterfront, the latest refugees from Azerbaijan's war with Armenia arrived to be housed in makeshift dormitories. The most recent batch of homeless streamed into Baku in the last fortnight after Armenian forces overran the last Azerbaijani strongholds in the embattled enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh.

They live between four and nine to a room. One refugee, Fatma Novruzova, 54, spent four days hiding in the region's forests at the start of her arduous journey to Baku after Armenian forces swept through her village in February. Several of her family died of frost bite during the harsh winter. "Instead of food we ate leaves from the trees, and instead of water we drank snow," she said.

The Yasamal camp where she lived used to be a student hostel but is now one of 20 sites in Baku which house an estimated 500,000 Azerbaijanis who have fled their homes in and around Nagorno-Karabakh since 1988.

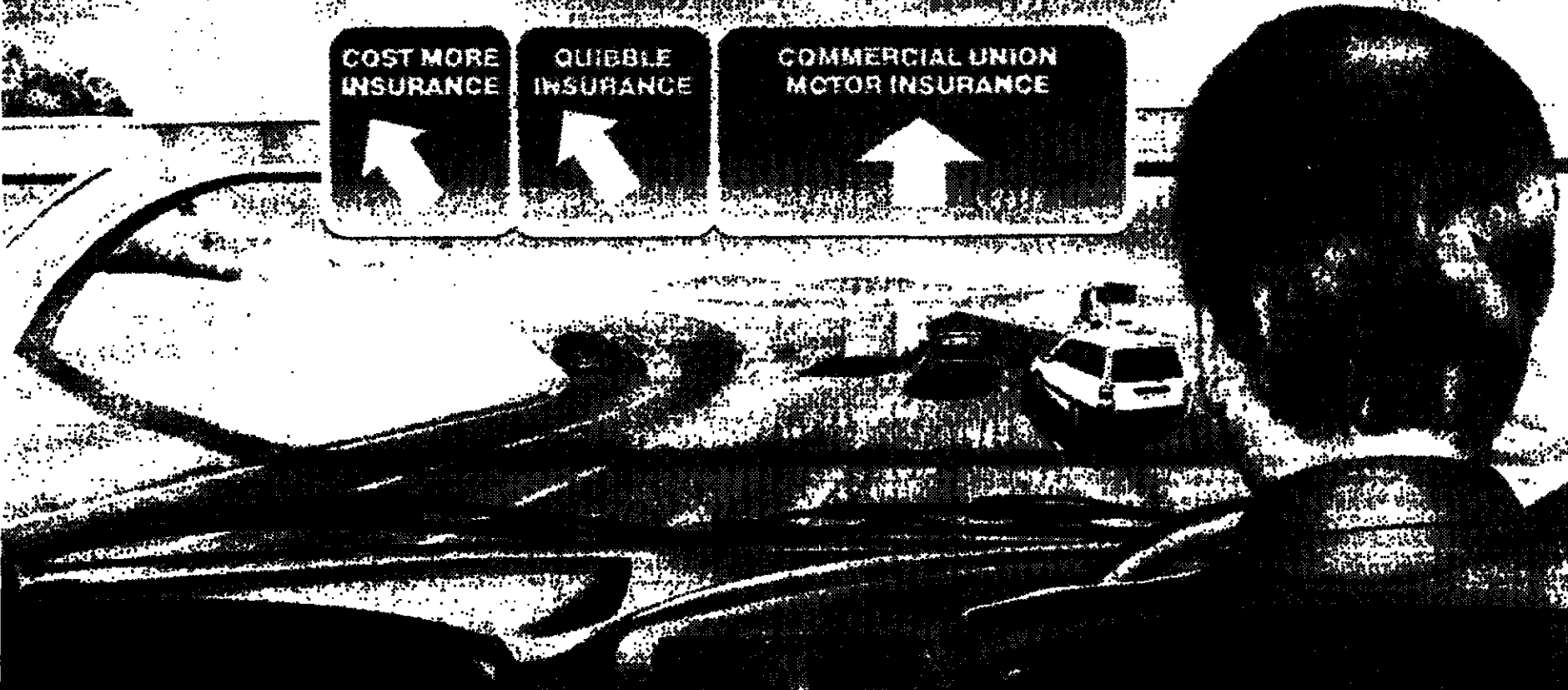
The refugees' poverty is in stark contrast to the potential wealth of the republic. Azerbaijan is a country rich in oil from the Caspian Sea. The world's first oil tankers ploughed with their light crude cargo between the city and the Black Sea via the Volga river late in the last century. To overcome the fact that the Volga froze for three months of every year, the Nobel brothers, the Swedish founders of the prizes that bear their name, built the first oil pipeline, in wood, across the Caucasus.

A consortium led by Amoco, the American oil company, and which includes British Petroleum, plans a \$5 billion (£2.6 billion) investment programme in the Azerbaijan oilfield. The deal, and the recent presidential elections that have brought to power the republic's quasi-democratic Popular Front, may provide the stability Azerbaijan needs. The oil revenue will significantly alter the balance of power in the republic's favour as it struggles to retake Nagorno-Karabakh.

Although local Armenians have all but driven Azerbaijanis out of the region, when oil dollars start to flow the weaponry they will buy will force the Armenians on to the defensive. Mrs Novruzova may not have to wait too long to return to her home.

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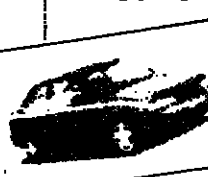
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Year
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Boudiaf assassination pushes Algeria nearer to civil war



Ghozali: supported conciliation attempt

THE assassination of Muhammad Boudiaf, the Algerian leader, pushed the country closer to a civil war that many fear is inevitable and sent a shiver of apprehension through the other Arab regimes struggling to hold back the mounting tide of Islamic fundamentalism.

Although the attack was on everyone's lips, there was a muted reaction on the streets of Algiers. In the Islamic fundamentalist strongholds of the city, young men discussed the assassination without anger or passion.

Although policemen armed with heavy machineguns surrounded the presidency, there were few other signs of an increase in security. Some public buildings were already well guarded such as the government offices in central Algiers, protected by soldiers with armoured cars.

As news of the assassination filtered through, Algerians were asking themselves

Alfred Hermida in Algiers and Christopher Walker in Cairo assess the consequences of the murder of Algeria's would-be saviour in a land increasingly troubled by Islamic fundamentalism

who would take over from Mr Boudiaf. There is a general impression that the country is rudderless, with the military competing with civilian in the government for influence. "Even before Boudiaf's death we didn't know who was running the country," said Madjid. "We didn't know who to speak to. Every government official would tell you something different."

There appeared to be few tears shed for Mr Boudiaf; instead a widespread feeling of disappointment and bitterness, particularly among the young. When Mr Boudiaf returned from exile in January to take over the presidency of the ruling Council of State,

many were prepared to give him a chance to tackle deep social and economic problems. Six months later, all they see is broken promises.

"They are all liars and thieves," said 18-year-old Ali. "I had hoped that they would kill the former president, Chadli Benjedid."

After five months in office there is little sign of the Boudiaf pledges to create thousands of jobs, build new houses and bring to book government officials involved in corruption. Instead Algerians have had to stomach an end to food subsidies, which led to the price of staple goods going through the roof.

Mr Boudiaf's project to

bring together the various political forces in the country under one roof aroused only suspicion. To many Algerians, his plan for a National Patriotic Rally sounded like a return to a one-party system. "There is a regression at the moment," said 40-year-old Muhammad. "We are just going back to the bad old days when there was only a single party and everyone was corrupt."

Since March 4, when the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was outlawed and driven underground, the risks it would mount a spectacular attack against the five-strong presidency seen as running the country on behalf of the army grew daily, as its new three-man cells acquired a legal weaponry.

On the day of the court order banning the party, which triumphed in the first round of December's far-flung general election, only to have the process negated before

victory could be assured, one Algerian-based envoy predicted: "This is only a temporary measure. Unless, by a miracle, they can turn around the economy and give the young something to think about, they are in for a struggle."

Despite protests to the contrary the leadership, which took over in a thinly disguised coup, had no legitimacy, though its backers insisted that, despite the voting figures, most Algerians were against an Iranian-style Islamic state.

Boudiaf left his job running a Moroccan brick factory to try to become the unlikely saviour of his country. With the help of his prime minister, Sid Hamed Ghozali, he attempted to float the idea of a "patriotic rally" to fill the credibility gap, a pot for ideas from ageing nationalists and the disenchanted young from which only the FIS was kept out.

But the idea did not grip

the country of 25 million where Islamic guerrillas began mounting daily gun and bomb attacks and publishing news letters inciting a violent uprising. Opponents accused the president of wanting to return to a "unique party" like the National Liberation Front (FLN), which ruled for nearly three decades after independence was won from France in 1962.

Analysts claimed that yesterday's attack was in part designed to expose the military nature of the January coup by forcing the army into an even higher public profile. A goal of the FIS is to provoke mass desertions from its ranks which are 60 per cent made up of conscripts.

The killing followed Saturday's chaotic break-up of the trial of the two FIS leaders, Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, on charges carrying the death penalty. A source close to the organisation claimed

its postponement until July 12 after a lawyers' walkout was "a political victory for the FIS which has unveiled the militarist character of the regime."

Even anti-fundamentalists in Algiers, a city of poverty and crippling shortages behind the deceptive white colonial facade, feared the banning of the FIS would radicalise it, boost its terrorist wing and weaken its moderates.

The same observers regarded the internment of up to 20,000 fundamentalists in hellish desert camps as a second mistake. "Each one of those detained had a family, so hardcore backers of the FIS were multiplied all over the country," said a Western security expert. "We tried to point out the dangers, but the regime would not listen."

Gunmen strike, page 1
Leading article, page 15
Obituary, page 17

Boost to Bush re-election campaign

Court frees states to restrict abortion

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

IN A politically explosive decision that is likely to figure prominently in the presidential election campaign, the American Supreme Court gave sweeping new powers to states yesterday to restrict abortion rights.

However, the conservative-dominated court stopped short of discarding altogether the historic 1973 Roe v Wade ruling which first enshrined abortion as a constitutional right. The court, which fell one vote short of overturning the 1973 ruling, was divided and delivered four separate opinions on a Pennsylvania law that makes it more difficult for women to obtain

abortion. While five of the nine justices upheld Roe v Wade, a majority also accepted the main provisions of the Pennsylvania law. The effect will be to allow states the right impose restrictions on abortion as long as they do not place an "undue burden" on women seeking terminations. Undue burden is only vaguely defined.

Hundreds of people gathered at the steps of the court to hear the long-awaited ruling. The justices handed down their 100-page decision in the solemn, packed courtroom. The main ruling, delivered by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, said: "Though

abortion is conduct, it does not follow that the state is entitled to proscribe it in all instances." Five justices decided that the central right enshrined in Roe v Wade had to be upheld for the sake of stability in the law. In an unprecedented move one of the justices, David Souter, who did not write a separate opinion, spoke from the bench after the main opinion was delivered. Justice Souter, a conservative who had been expected to take an anti-abortion line, said: "To overrule Roe would subvert the court's legitimacy beyond any reasonable question. If the court were undermined, the country would also be so." In his opinion Justice Harry Blackmun, the author of the Roe ruling, could hardly contain his relief that the 1973 landmark decision was not overturned. "Just when so many expected the darkness to fall," he said, "the flame has grown bright."

The Pennsylvania law imposes a 24-hour waiting period on women who want a termination and requires minors to seek parental approval before obtaining an abortion. Doctors are also required to explain to a woman seeking an abortion the status of the foetus.

The Bush administration had put its weight behind the Pennsylvania law. "A state's interest in protecting foetal life throughout pregnancy outweighs a woman's liberty interest in abortion," Kenneth Starr, the solicitor general, told the court.

The decision would seem to ensure the eventual end of recent outright abortion bans imposed by the states of Louisiana and Utah. Both states are due to face the court next year.

Last night, a senior White House aide said he thought the decision would help President Bush in his fight with pro-choice Republicans. Robert Casey, Pennsylvania governor, welcomed the court's decision to uphold the provisions of his state's law. "It is a major loss to have a fundamental right to abortion upheld," James Bopp, general counsel for the National Right to Life organisation, said. Patricia Schroeder, a Democrat Congresswoman from Colorado, said the court's decision acted as a "stab in the heart" of Roe. "It really says they don't trust women."

L&T section, page 5

Paderewski returns to Poland

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

The body of Ignace Jan Paderewski, one of the first prime ministers of independent Poland and a virtuoso pianist, was flown to Warsaw yesterday in recognition that the country was now "free and independent". Washington, however, will keep his embalmed heart.

Crowds cheered and waved the red-and-white Polish colours as eight soldiers carried the coffin into Warsaw's royal castle to await the formal burial ceremony on Sunday. Paderewski died of pneumonia in New York in 1941.

His relatives and friends stipulated that he could be laid to rest in his motherland only when Poland was fully independent. So the ceremony has had to wait for the defeat of Hitler, the collapse of communist rule, and the first free elections. The burial will be attended by President Bush, who will make a stop-over on his way to the G7 summit in Munich.

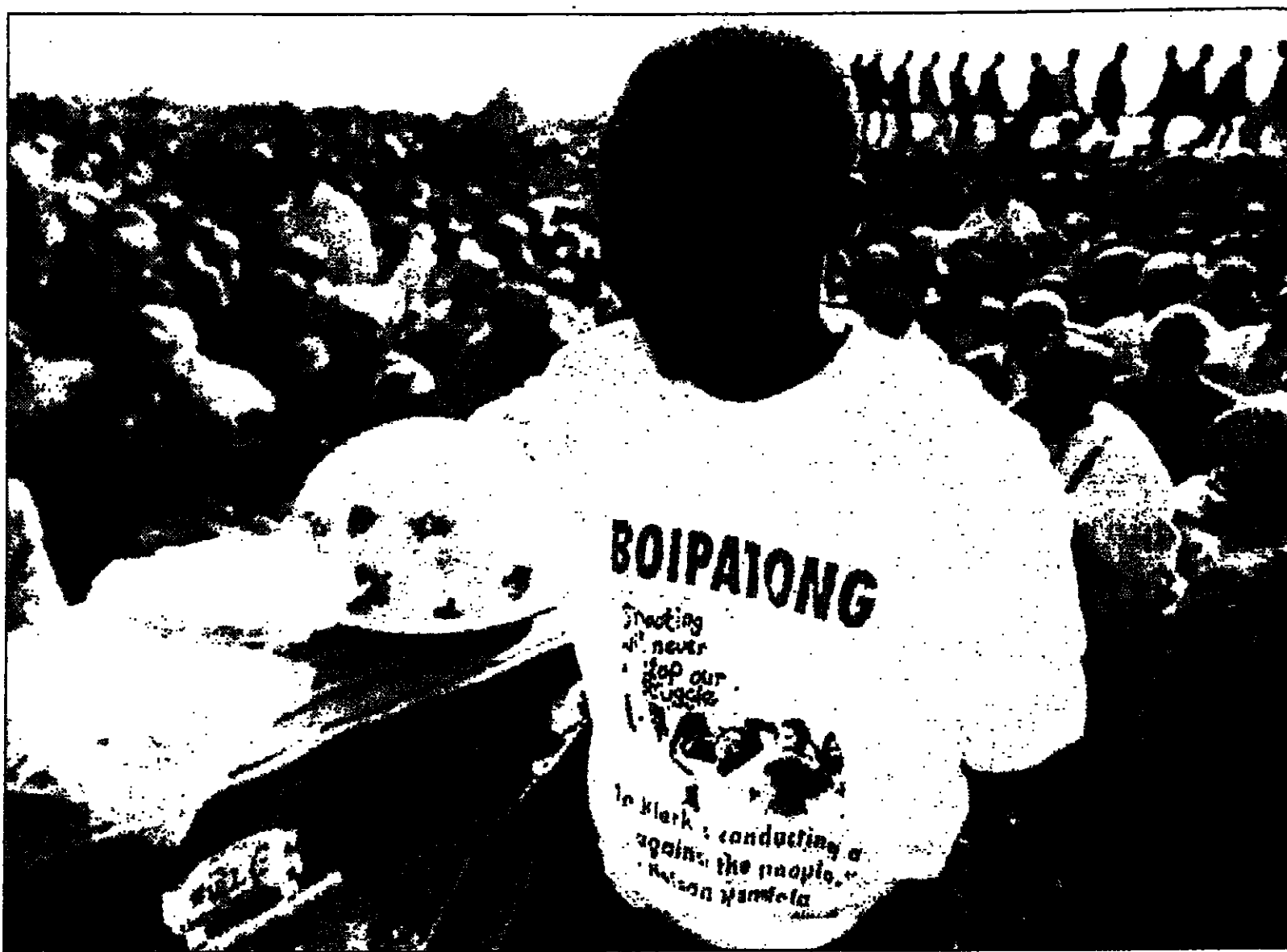
Gore suits as partner for Clinton

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WITH less than two weeks until the Democratic convention, Bill Clinton is in the final stages of selecting a presidential running mate, and a senior congressional source says Senator Al Gore of Tennessee is emerging as front runner.

Mr Gore has been asked to supply the Clinton campaign with background material and has signalled that he would accept the job if asked. He is a Southern moderate and his strengths dovetail neatly with Mr Clinton's weaknesses. He survived intense media scrutiny as a 1988 presidential candidate, and given Mr Clinton's own suspect war draft and marital records his running mate must be squeaky clean.

Mr Gore is a strong family man and supported the Gulf war. He is also the Democrats' environmental champion, a field where Mr Clinton is vulnerable.



T-shirt mourner: one of the estimated 40,000 attending the funeral yesterday of 36 of the 42 victims of the Boipatong township killings

Crowds mourn the victims of Boipatong

The throng of people at the funeral of the township massacre victims was generally good-humoured but anger and defiance broke through, Michael Hamlyn writes from Boipatong

message and led a chorus of "We shall overcome, some day."

There were representatives of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the Foreign Office on the platform. The crowds, though generally good humoured, were prepared to be angry. They cheered Jay Naidoo, the general secretary of Cosatu (the Confederation of South African Trade Unions) when he announced that the final battle for their freedom had come. He said: "We are undertaking the kind of action that will bring this country to a standstill."

And he blazed at President de Klerk: "We are not your garden boys, we are human beings and we live in this country." Bishop Huddleston said: "I truly believe that in the struggle for liberation this day could be marked in our history as the day victory begins."

Many of the bereaved families burst into loud lamenta-

tion at the recital by Simon Moloi of how his eight-months pregnant wife, Elizabeth, died that night. He recalled how he was roused from his bed by the noise of a woman screaming and then saw two men attacking a neighbour with hatchets.

He also saw two white men armed with R1 rifles. He and his wife ran. "Do not leave me," his wife pleaded, as he lifted up a wire fence for her to scramble under. "I put my hands on my head. What can I do?" I said, and he ran and plunged into a swamp. He found his wife's body the next day. "I removed the blanket. It was her. That is how it ended."

Also profoundly moving were the pathetically small, silver-painted coffins of the children who died that night. Popi Mbatha, five, Julia Latha, 12, and a nine-month-old baby speared by an assegai.

So when Bishop Huddleston said that in the West people have forgotten how to hate, there was a shiver of

anticipation. "Christians are not only commanded to love," he said. "We are commanded to hate what is evil, and nothing is more evil than apartheid."

A local spokesman of the Vaal Civic Association put some flesh on that hate. He announced that from today the inhabitants of the Vaal triangle, the industrial area, would go on indefinite strike. They would boycott the local shops and stay away from work until work began on destroying the hated hotel.

Cyril Ramaphosa calling "Phansi (down with) KwaMadala hostel, phansi!" put some political sinews into their anger. "Codesa [the Convention for a Democratic South Africa] can be forgotten," he said. "It has brought us nothing so far. It has just brought us misery."

The ANC will not tolerate the politics of murder, he said, echoing Mr de Klerk's rejection of "the politics of ultimatums". "We will not tolerate the jackboot and the gun."

But Mr Ramaphosa, while rehearsing the terms set out in the ANC's letter to the government for the resumption of the negotiations insisted that the ANC have not given up on negotiation. Mass action, he said, is not a substitute for negotiation, it is part of it. "We are the guardians of the negotiations process."

Finally it came to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the head of the Anglican Church in South Africa, to send the most direct challenge to Mr de Klerk. "First, and it is a very reasonable request," he said. "It is one that can be made by a minister of religion. We demand that the murderers of Boipatong be brought to justice, arrested, convicted and imprisoned, and we don't want them released because of computer error" — a reference to an earlier incident where a KwaZulu policeman convicted of several murders was released early.

The archbishop also called for an international group to monitor the South African police behaviour and to look into the violence and for an interim government.

Life & Times, page 5

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Prospects for Palestinian solution remain clouded

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

PALESTINIAN leaders returning to the occupied territories yesterday may have felt that little had changed in Israel since last week's general elections ousted the right-wing Likud party and heralded a new era under the more flexible rule of Yitzhak Rabin's Labour party.

No sooner had the 17 leading figures crossed the Jordan River over the Allenby Bridge than Israeli detectives detained and questioned them over their meeting this month with Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. "We told them we are not going to say anything, and we gave them a

statement that we are a Palestinian delegation negotiating with Israel," said Faisal Hussein, the most prominent Palestinian figure in the West Bank.

The incident coincided with growing concern among the 1.7 million Arab inhabitants of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip over the future of the peace talks and the make up of the next Israeli coalition government. Although a future Labour government will allow Palestinians to hold their own free elections and begin the transition to autonomy, there are still fears about Mr Rabin's tough reputation in dealing with Arabs and his recent at-

tempts to entice the hardline Tsomet party into his coalition government.

"Much of what happens next at the peace talks will depend on who Mr Rabin chooses as his coalition partners, there are several options and each will have a different bearing on the success or failure of the negotiations," said Saeb Erekat, a key member of the Palestinian negotiating team.

Under the present timetable, Mr Rabin is expected to announce the formation of a new government on or soon after the new parliament opens on July 13. He is then expected to confer with President Bush and possibly President



Mubarak of Egypt before peace talks resume in Rome later this summer.

Although Palestinians remain cautiously optimistic that the former general and defence minister will keep

his promise to freeze Jewish settlement in the occupied territories they also face the possibility of deep divisions within their own society.

While supporters of the mainstream Fatah organisation loyal to Mr Arafat are broadly behind the concept of "land for peace", several popular rejectionist factions may attempt to disrupt the process.

Although the talks are aimed at resuming the status of the people living in the occupied territories, it is unlikely that any immediate solution will be found for the hundreds of thousands of Palestinians living in exile since 1948, many of them in refugee camps across the Middle East. Nor will the negotiations satisfy

hardline groups backed by Syria and Iran who want nothing less than the return of all of Palestine and regard the present US-sponsored negotiations as a dangerous sell-out.

Last week when two Israeli civilians were stabbed to death in the Gaza Strip by members of the Muslim fundamentalist group Hamas, the graffiti message on the walls of the coastal strip left little to the imagination. "This is a gift for Rabin," it said a day after the Israel elections. More recently the Muslim extremists appear to be turning their attention towards fellow Palestinians with one recent slogan in Jerusalem stating: "Palestine will be liberated by strugglers, not by hagglers."

of Boipatong

main clouded

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Woodrow Wyatt

Far from split, most Britons are united over Maastricht

The joy of politics is its unpredictability. The assumption was that the Danes would vote Yes in the referendum provided for in the draft Maastricht Treaty, which must receive the unanimous approval of the 12 EC members before ratification. Now it is assumed the French will vote Yes. But they may not, and on his visit to Sarajevo, Mitterrand had both eyes on the French voters, who show signs of restlessness. If they fail him, the treaty will be stone dead. But either way, someone must deal with the Commission's attempts to impose socialist-style regulations on a capitalist single market and in matters where it has no competence.

Fortunately, Parliament rises in mid-July, not to return till October 19. Mr Major, who holds the European presidency till December 31, has time calmly to find ways to counter the fears of almost everyone in Britain and of a great many throughout Europe. His political credibility will be tested if he is finally left with something like the draft Maastricht Treaty, with addenda, and cannot get it through Parliament. This applies even if there is a free vote, though I cannot see him allowing one on so serious an issue.

In his task he has an ally, often overlooked, in Herr Kohl, who consults him regularly and has his own domestic difficulties over Maastricht. Nowadays Herr Kohl pays more heed to Mr Major than to Mitterrand. As is generally recognised, dissatisfaction centres on what the devil subsidiary means. Article 3b of the draft Maastricht Treaty endeavours to interpret it. But this was rightly described in a letter to *The Times* on June 15 from Lord Mackenzie-Stuart, president of the European Court of Justice 1984-8, as a "prime example of gobbledygook embracing simultaneously two opposed concepts of subsidiarity". So is much of the rest of the illiterate draft treaty, which many international lawyers must hope will be at least substantially ratified, whereupon fortunes await them.

All Britons, save frantic federalists, are at one. It is intolerable for the Commission to claim to decide which of our internal affairs it will poke its nose into and which it will condescend to leave to us. The interpretation which must be clearly codified in the draft treaty is precisely the opposite. Each country, except on matters relating to fair competition to ensure the efficiency of the single market, must have an absolute right to decide whether it prefers to deal by itself with solely national questions, or feels they can be better dealt with by the Commission.

Mr Major has emphatically declared his determination to roll back powers the Commission has unnecessarily grabbed, and to make it a servant, not the master, of the Community. I believe he is sincere in this, and that he has the skills to succeed. He is a sensible Eurosceptic who wants to realise the full potential for EC wealth-creation, which will be not advanced, but hindered by turning Westminster, or any other national parliament, into a glorified county council. This is why he is pushing hard for the admission into the EC of other European states, including those in central Europe and presumably the new Russian Republic. This is resisted only by those anxious to have a tightly knit, inward-looking, protectionist EC, at war over GATT with America and itching to end US presence in Europe. However fierce, our debate on the details is important and valuably informative, so long as we remember that broadly we are all on the same side.

Why I want to join the establishment club

Janet Daley argues women should be welcomed by the Garrick

Imagine a huge organisation employing thousands of people. New recruits soon discover that some staff vanish into a sumptuous suite of rooms to which only the select possess the keys. This mysterious group, having no official status in the organisation, happens to be composed of its most influential personnel. Walking past in the corridor, the excluded can hear the hubbub of ebullient converse interrupted occasionally by gales of hilarity and ribald singing.

When the neophyte suggests that crucial decisions are being dealt with behind those closed doors, his more experienced colleagues shrug cynically. They know that this inner chamber, quite separate from the visible hierarchy and formal channels, is the place where important matters are resolved in intimate camaraderie.

Having constructed this phantasm in your mind's eye, imagine now that the organisation is Britain, and that the genial cabal

within it is the Garrick Club. I have never succeeded in persuading any member of the Garrick quite how demoralising it is for the majority of poor devils who toil in the various circles of public life — the media, the law, arts and politics — to walk, metaphorically speaking, past those closed doors. Especially for a woman who knows that no matter how esteemed and authoritative she becomes, she shall never be admitted to that *sacrum sanctum* of establishment life. On July 6, the members look likely once again to dedicate themselves to all-male society by voting to exclude women from membership for a further five years.

"Why should you want to join us?" the chaps enquire disingenuously before diving back into that bibulous sanctuary with their high-powered chums. Those who are not misogynous are merely patronising. As Sir Peregrine

Worsthorne put it in *The Sunday Telegraph*, it is not because we dislike women that we wish to keep them out. On the contrary, it is precisely the respect and protectiveness that women engender which makes us wish to spare them the ruder excesses of male behaviour. The Garrick is a place, he intimates, where men indulge rather boorish unattractive habits, such as falling asleep after lunch. They could scarcely feel comfortable snoring in an armchair with ladies in the room (though any woman who travels on aeroplanes or trains is likely to witness just such an unedifying sight).

But the main thrust of Sir Peregrine's case is that the robust atmosphere of the Garrick is altogether too malign for the female temperament. Men on their own are inclined to tease each other with a cruel abandon that would shock a woman's ear. Since all members must be prepared to

join in this "joshing" if the spirit of the club is not to be lost, women too would have to be regarded as fair game. And they, poor sensitive things, could easily be reduced to tears by the callous repartee. Dear old Perry Worsthorne may well be dismayed by visions of the Garrick bar awash with tears and the members' snug invaded by the high-pitched twittering of ladies alarmed by boisterous male scurrillity.

What sort of women does he imagine wish to join anyway? Female politicians, actors, journalists and barristers are hardly likely to have escaped the worst of what men have to offer in the normal conduct of their professional lives. I can certainly promise the Garrick in my own right, to give as good as I get. (Or would that worry the men even more?) The idea of men being on their best behaviour for women is not

without charm, goodness knows, but since it has died out almost completely in the real world, it seems less than honest of the Garrick diehards to use it as an excuse for keeping women out of one of the greatest power-broking fraternities of national life. If the Garrick is indeed a social institution whose sole aim is innocuous friendship, perhaps someone on its committee can explain why so many members are able to reclaim their subscriptions from their companies.

We can see that the Worsthorne case is less than frank when he asks why the membership policy of the Garrick should be a matter of public interest at all. To claim that the club is nothing but an innocent private watering place where good chaps may meet for a meal and a decent bottle of wine sounds rather like the police arguing that there is nothing sinister in so many of

their officers being maoons. Any club which encourages mutual loyalty from very powerful men must expect to attract attention.

Then there is the old excuse about members' wives being suspicious of time spent at any club that admits women. But the prospect of the Garrick turning itself into a Manhattan singles bar seems less than credible, for any women who joined would be more interested in networking than nooks: more a leg-up than a leg-over. For men who see women only as wives or mistresses, it may be a bit of a leap in the dark.

But to regard the Garrick as simply a contacts market is unforgivably crass. Let us accept that it is a bastion of a particularly English form of friendship. Can the most influential men in the country never see women as friends rather than as an audience to be impressed? Or is it that this kind of friendship is so near to corruption that it would shame them to be caught at it by unctuously plain-speaking women?

Winning votes in foreign fields

Plenty of other leaders will wish to emulate M Mitterrand's Sarajevo coup, says Conor Cruise O'Brien

No very close precedent for President Mitterrand's visit to besieged Sarajevo occurs to me, but the journey that has most in common with it is appropriately another French one. Gambetta's celebrated balloon journey out of besieged Paris in October 1870, in order to take the lead in the resistance in the provinces to the German invaders. Gambetta is a hero to the particular French political tradition to which François Mitterrand belongs, the patriotic Left. So when he flew over those Serbian lines this week, that epic balloon ride of 1870 must have been in his mind.

Other more recent precedents or near-precedents probably did not mean so much to him. There was the flight of the Egyptian president, Anwar Sadat, to Jerusalem to address the Knesset in November 1977: a flight not less dramatic than Mitterrand's and almost certainly of more momentous historical significance.

Before that, in September 1961, there was the flight of the United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld to Ndola, in what was then northern Rhodesia, to meet Moïse Tshombe, the nominal head of the forces (including Rhodesians) fighting the United Nations forces in what was then Katanga. Hammarskjöld's plane crashed near Ndola — probably in the course of a hijacking attempt by right-wing French officers — and he and all his companions were killed. The risks run by Mitterrand and his colleagues this week were of a similar order.

It is not cynical but realistic to assume that when a national leader makes an important move on the international stage, what is foremost in his mind is the likely effect on his own political fortunes at home. But the leader in question must also hope that the international effects of his intervention will be beneficial. He must hope for that both in a general way and because if the

international situation is seen to deteriorate, and the deterioration is blamed on his intervention, then his own domestic political fortunes will also suffer. Disraeli scored a triumph at the Congress of Berlin in 1878, putting Britain at the heart of Europe and halting Russian ambitions. Bismarck admiringly declared "The old Jew — he's the man", but Disraeli's international success did him no good at home and he lost the next election.

The immediate effects of the Sarajevo mission on M. Mitterrand's political fortunes are obviously favourable. His daring exploit makes the French feel good. The other European leaders — and also President Bush, in his criticisms of the European leaders — did no more than talk. The president of France was alone in putting his life on the line in the cause of peace. This mood may wear off, especially if the pictures coming out of Bosnia in future are little different from those before M. Mitterrand's visit. But this is very much his week.

Internationally, M. Mitterrand's mission tilts the balance towards military intervention under the auspices of the United Nations in what was Yugoslavia. The balance is tilted because of the mission's impact on America and specifically on George Bush's electoral campaign. Mr Bush is chronically worried about being made to look like a wimp. The dashing president of France has this week made all other political leaders look like wimps, but most of them are not up for re-election this year. President Bush is, so the pressure on him to do something to erase the memory of M. Mitterrand's unimpressive success is great.

Until President Bush makes up his mind, there will be conflicting voices coming from Washington. The military voices heard so far are anti-interventionist and they talk about "a quagmire", meaning a new Vietnam. This makes sense, from a professional point of



Star of Berlin: John Tenniel's view of Disraeli bringing back "peace with honour" after taming the Russian Bear in 1878

view, for if America does intervene and the operation goes wrong, this will not be the fault of the military, but of the civilian firebrands who overruled the prudent professionals. But if it goes right, the military can take the credit anyway.

Formally, it is the UN Security Council that will decide whether or not there shall be military intervention. Substantively, it is the president of the United States, and he alone, who will take the decision. Since the end of the Cold War, the Security Council has been dominated by America, subject only to marginal conces-

sions (or bribes) to win over waverers. The Security Council is essentially a stage, and that stage is now being set for war. The curtain will not actually rise until the American president decides that UN military intervention in Yugoslavia is necessary to ensure the re-election of George Bush.

President Mitterrand's spectacular sideshow renders more urgent the raising of the curtain on the main stage of the central theatre of world politics: the United Nations. It is time to turn the spotlight away from Sarajevo,

for now, and onto New York. So much for the staging now going forward. There are also some preparations going on about how the intervention, if it is to go ahead, is to be executed. Some of the leaks coming out of Washington last week suggested that the burden of the intervention would be divided as follows: America would conduct most of the war in the air; the European allies would supply the ground forces. So if there is to be a quagmire, it is not going to be an American one, this time round.

This is an attractive plan in the context of the American presidential campaign, but the European allies may have some reservations about the part assigned to them. Here, M. Mitterrand's Sarajevo mission may be of more help to Europe's collective position over what was Yugoslavia than he necessarily intended. That mission makes the European collective position, with Mitterrand on board, look the more impressive vis à vis America's position. This should help the European side during the coming preparations. But it is still the Americans, under the pressures of their electoral campaign, who will be setting the pace.



...and moreover CRAIG BROWN

It is an idyllic, not to say sybaritic, even elegant, not to mention polysyllabic, scene. With me around Lord Halibut's splendid luncheon table are four eminences grises. They were all, long ago, best known as Angry Young Men of the Left. But with age has come maturity, the maturity of many annuities, and they are now foregathered to celebrate the many sterling achievements of Mrs Thatcher.

Many believe that Lord Halibut himself — in his youth, plain Reginald Herring, firebrand of the Marxist Left — could have been a leading member of Aneurin Bevan's cabinet, had Bevan ever been prime minister, and presuming he knew which one was Herring. Throughout the Sixties and the early Seventies, young Reginald Herring fought for social justice and higher wages, eventually achieving both these goals with his elevation to the House of Lords and to membership of Lloyd's in 1975. Around this time, he found himself more and more attracted to the right wing of the Conservative party, influenced both by the monetarist philosophy of Milton Friedman and by the sound economic advice of his offshore accountant.

"Sausage roll, anyone?" Lord Halibut's table groans with comestibles. "You've done us proud, Reggie," declares Sir Barnabas Kipper, reaching over to the plate. "I never find just one sausage roll quite enough, do you?" he says, taking seven, and

another two for his pocket. Back in the Fifties, Barney Kipper's name was synonymous with campaigns, but now it is more often associated with champagne. Then, his pamphlets decrying poverty were widely read within the Labour movement. Would a pamphlet still interest him? I asked him. "Maybe for a starter but never as a main course — unless you're a sissy," he replied.

"He thinks you said 'omelette' explained Lord Halibut. Barney Kipper well remembers his own conversion to the Conservative cause. "I overheard Harold Wilson say just one word — and I thought, this is enough, never again."

"What word was that?" I asked him. "Intervention?" "No — toilet," said Kipper. "and I've voted Tory ever since."

For the celebrated polemicist Arnold Stoot, author of the popular "Gloat with Stoot" column, conversion to the Tory cause was more of an intellectual progression. "I had been a longstanding Labour supporter — editor of *The New Statesman*, former editor of *The Statesman*, the lot — and yet I had never once been invited to dinner at Downing Street. Then, out of the blue, Mrs Thatcher herself rang me with an invitation. I was immediately won over. And then, of course, she asked if she could borrow one of my books."

"Was that your excellent *Un-illustrated History of Everything*?" I asked him. "No, it was an early Frederick

Forsyth," replied Stoot, "but what a tremendous compliment to my taste and skill! What a lady!"

"To commemorate the year Mrs T took over the reins, I have ordered a rather special 1975 vintage," announced our host, Lord Halibut.

"A Petrus, perchance?" asked Sir Barnabas Kipper.

"No. A Pork Pie. Age shall not stale it. Mr Bowyer's Best," declared Lord Halibut.

Our remaining companion, Professor Septimus Cod, had, like Stoot, converted through personal acquaintance with Mrs Thatcher. "We were at a reception just after she was elected prime minister. Across the crowded floor, our eyes met. I felt instinctively that she was about to offer me a senior position in her administration — Lord Chancellor, perhaps, or a senior ambassador — but then a waiter came around with his trayload of cheesy bits, and I was temporarily distracted. When I looked up again, she was gone. We had not met, but I knew I would follow her to the ends of the earth. Fifteen years later, we happened to meet for the first time. It was as if we had known each other all our lives. "What do you do, then?" she asked me. It was one of the kindest, most acute questions I have ever been asked. What a lady! Pass the ketchup, Kipper, there's a good fellow."

On Thursday Lord Halibut manages the economy and Sir Barnabas Kipper tests a Scotch Egg.

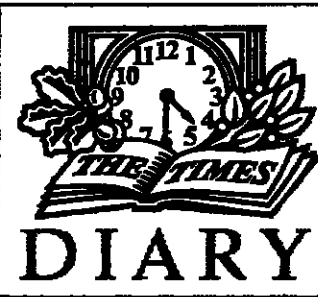
Of human conflict

IF Lady Thatcher's recording of the words of Abraham Lincoln soars to the top of the charts, the record company is already planning a follow-up: a recording of her reciting the most famous speeches of Winston Churchill. EMI hopes that Lady Thatcher, who takes her seat in the House of Lords today, will be lured back into the Abbey Road recording studio to set some of the most stirring Churchillian rhetoric to music, possibly by Walton.

The record company, which yesterday released *The Lincoln Portraits*, a 16-minute recording including the Gettysburg address set to Aaron Copland's music, says: "A Churchill recording is definitely on the cards if the demand is there."

The demand, it seems, is huge — at least among the Euro-sceptical. Anti-federalist MPs and members of the Bruges Group are delighted at the idea of a Thatcher-Churchill disc to be released just as the French hold their referendum and as the Maastricht Bill returns to the Commons in the autumn. They feel that few will be left in any doubt about the contemporary significance of Lady Thatcher delivering the famous lines: "We shall fight in France... We shall defend our Island wherever the cost may be... we shall fight on the beaches; we shall fight on the landing grounds; we shall fight in the fields and in the streets; we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

Patrick Robertson, co-ordinator of the Bruges Group, says: "It would be the most fitting rallying cry against the invasiveness of the Brussels bureaucrats. Jacques Delors will know exactly who and what she is talking about."



Others are less than thrilled by the prospect. Philip Ziegler, author of biographies of a number of figures from the Churchill era, says: "Excruciating. The whole idea fills me with deep dread."

Meanwhile, if Lady Thatcher is sounding particularly belligerent towards the new Tory hierarchy at the moment, it may have something to do with the fact that Andrew Jeffries, who was her proxy in the election, has been sacked as the Conservative party agent in Dulwich. Lady Thatcher is incensed that the decision was taken as a cost-cutting measure while her friend was on holiday in Gibraltar. When he returned he was told to clear his desk, so the man who dropped the Thatchers' votes into the ballot box less than three months ago is now on the dole.

Courtesy cuppa

ONE call Jeremy Bates did not have to make after his valiant efforts yesterday was to Pat Edwards, the mastermind behind Wimbledon's complimentary car service. Mrs Edwards says she has regrettably not been asked to offer transport to the British number one, because win or lose, Bates chooses to drive himself to the championships in his Porsche. Edwards, who also ran the car

service at the G7 London summit last year, is celebrating 21 years at Wimbledon, and is now responsible for moving 2,500 people every day to and from the All England Club.

Despite the problems of keeping track of so many passengers, she has only lost one champion to date. "It was last year. One of our drivers was taking home Michael Stich, the men's champion. When they got there, the place was besieged by the press, so the driver offered to take Michael to his own modest abode for a cup of tea. The whole world was going frantic. No one knew where the champion had got to."

Chequered career

JUST four days before the French Grand Prix, where he hopes to clock up a sixth victory of the season, Nigel Mansell faces a dramatic reduction in horsepower. He will turn up to open the Harrods summer sale tomorrow in

PIT STOP



pole position — driven by a meagre 2 h.p., in the form of a pair of Friesian stallions, usually stabled in the Harrods loading bay. Mansell has waived any fee, in

return for a £50,000 donation by the store to a children's charity in the Isle of Man where he lives. "We were going to have four horses, but we decided that with a driver of Nigel's calibre a pair was sufficient," says the store.

Lotta bottle

NORMAN LAMONT was more than qualified to do battle with EC finance ministers in Brussels yesterday over the threat to raise taxes on Scotch whisky. For weeks, the Scotch Whisky Association has been showering the cabinet with bottles of the amber nectar.

So hurried is the industry by the proposed move that even the Opposition has been included in the beneficence. Every MP, even the Irish ones, has been sent a presentation pack of six miniatures.

Not that the chancellor needs much persuading. Lamont steadied his nerves with a glass of Highland Park malt whisky during his last Budget speech. Seldom can a minister have gone to Brussels with a more passionate belief in his brief.

Before taking his place on The Peak as the last British governor of Hong Kong next week, Chris Patten has been hard at work canvassing advice among London's Sinoophile community. Patten, who has declined a knighthood and says he will discard the plumed dress of office, has been told he should treat the post as though he were the mayor of a big city. The advice is from Jonathan Miskry, who has told Patten to act less like a governor and more like a first citizen. His words appear to have been heeded. Patten has sent Miskry the following message by return: "Whenever you are in Hong Kong, you are invited to the Mayor's Parlour."



ALGERIAN OUTRAGE

The assassination of President Muhammad Boudiaf throws more than just Algeria into turmoil. The most spectacular killing in the Arab world since that of President Sadat will shake all the Maghreb. In France the four million-strong community of North Africans will be further divided and inflamed. Throughout the Middle East Islamic fundamentalists will be encouraged and radicalised. Fear of their gunmen will stalk moderate rulers and secular human rights activists alike.

Algeria's military rulers knew they were taking a risk when they scrapped the second round of elections in January, pre-empting a certain electoral victory by the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). In an attempt to stifle protest, they rounded up thousands of suspected fundamentalists and fuelled a resentment that was bound to lead to violence. Boudiaf, a frail, almost forgotten exile, was brought home from Morocco after 27 years in exile to give respectability to a usurper regime. He became a symbol of the Western-oriented secularists who had cheated the fundamentalists of victory. Despite attempts to ban gatherings outside mosques and to monitor subversion by anti-government mullahs, the military government has been unable to win popular support. The president was attempting to reach out to village communities; he was killed opening a cultural centre.

Algeria, an important exporter of oil and gas, has been in economic difficulties for more than a year as export earnings have fallen and inflation has risen. Fundamentalism fed off discontent with unemployment, housing shortage, economic stagnation and the corruption of the FLN party, in power for 30 years since independence. Few of their supporters were originally fired with the religious zeal of Iranian fundamentalists or were interested in a crusading anti-Westernism. They voted for the FIS in the first round of elections as a way of expressing their frustration, just as they supported

Saddam Hussein during the Gulf war to embarrass the government.

The banning of the party, the house arrests and the round-up of suspects have enabled the FIS leadership to portray the crack-down as an attack on Islam, and imbue their leaders with the halo of martyrdom. Two, Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj, went on trial for their lives; their trial broke up last Saturday. They are due in court again on July 12, but the government is now unlikely to risk such a challenge to the FIS.

Yesterday's assassination will raise tensions in Algeria's neighbours, Morocco and Tunisia, where the same population explosion, poverty and political discontent have given Muslim fundamentalists a strong appeal. Across the Mediterranean the shock is palpable. France, Spain and Italy are beset by migrants bringing religious fanaticism and political instability to their shores. One leader of France's Muslim community immediately saluted the killing as "the proof that God's justice always triumphs over human justice". Such sentiments should not be welcome to European civil authorities, mindful of the Rushdie affair.

The Lisbon summit promised closer political and economic links with North Africa. The EC is even considering a free-trade zone with the Maghreb. Europe's interest is to speed up economic and democratic development to prevent North Africans migrating in their thousands to a better life across the water. But beyond pledging money, the EC has talked little of pluralist democracy, human rights and a resumption of electoral politics.

The jittery military command in Algeria will now feel even less secure. It will attempt to crack down harder, thereby encouraging further resistance. European Community leaders, aghast at yet more killings and turmoil on their southern flank, have called for an end to the spreading violence. Those hopes died in a hail of bullets fired into the back of an elderly man yesterday.

HOW NOT TO SAVE WHALES

The international ban on commercial whaling, accepted with varying degrees of enthusiasm or reluctance since 1986, is about to break down. Of the three chief whaling nations — Norway, Iceland and Japan — the first two used the beginning of the international whaling conference in Glasgow yesterday to announce that they intended to resume minke whaling next year. Japan is likely to follow.

The failure of the moratorium now is a disappointment. But it is not much more than that, for the moratorium was flawed. It was introduced originally in the name of conservation, at a time when the extinction of virtually all whales seemed imminent. Its continuation is demanded now in the name of animal welfare. Iceland and Norway are entitled to accuse the anti-whaling majority of nations in the International Whaling Commission of changing the rules half way through the game.

The resumption of whaling announced yesterday applies only to the minke whale, the one whale that is not threatened by over-hunting. Endangered whales are still protected. Iceland's attitude, and now Norway's, shows what happens when the world community starts to act with less than total good faith. In the end such tactics do whales no favours, and risk discrediting other worthwhile international efforts at the conservation of endangered species.

There are up to a million minke whales, probably nearly 100,000 in the North Atlantic alone. Even scientists advising the IWC say in principle minke hunting could be resumed with no threat to stocks, though they talk of the need for complex arrangements for monitoring minke populations to be in place before hunting is restarted.

The more anti-whaling lobbies have been heard calling for continuing the moratorium on various pragmatic grounds, the stronger has grown the Icelandic and Norwegian

suspicion that they were playing for time. The more time passes, the more whaling ships will rust, whaling crews disperse and disband, whaling factories close, tastes in food change, until the whaling nations themselves perforce become former whaling nations. Iceland and Norway believe that these are the undecorated tactics being used against them.

Thus there has been a prolonged search, never likely to satisfy all interests, for a humane method of killing minke whales. John Gummer, the British minister at the Glasgow conference yesterday, robustly attacked the hypocrisy of "green" Norway lecturing the world on ecology. But even he admits that the cruelty of death by harpoon, not the threat of extermination, is now his primary objection to minke whaling.

The goal of the lobby groups which surround the Glasgow conference as they surrounded the Rio de Janeiro environmental jamboree earlier this month — and more and more the goal of the IWC itself — is no longer simply to "save the whale" as a species, but to save every individual whale from the risk of a painful death. Both Iceland and Norway maintain that they never submitted to the IWC moratorium on animal welfare grounds, only in order to preserve a threatened species.

The welfare of animals, be they African elephants or Spanish bulls, is a matter for domestic legislation. A country which permits inhumane hunting, of whales or other animals, can expect international disapproval. But animal cruelty is not something which it is appropriate to ban by international agreements, particularly when drawn up for other purposes. The IWC's mistake has been to present the moratorium on minke whaling as an issue of preservation, needing international co-operation. It is not. Norway and Iceland have at least taught the world a lesson in candour.

THROUGH ENGLISH EYES

A peculiarly English light has gone out with the death of John Piper. For two thirds of this century his paintings, drawings and prints, and images in many other media, have reflected the way the English see their country and its landscape.

Like few other 20th-century artists, he was both serious and popular. He straddled the gulf that yawned throughout his career between international abstractionism and the English tradition of the romantic and the picturesque. He was too prolific and too timeless for his art to be truly fashionable. His love of old buildings, especially churches, seemed outdated when modern art was pursuing novel expressions and subject matter. But he had a feeling for place, for reinterpreting the English countryside, that brought him widespread popularity, never better demonstrated than in his prints for the walls of Lyons tearshops. He shared with Piranesi a pleasure in melodramatic ruins and in topography as a passing bell to the music of time. But his was also the romantic muse of his hero Turner, who too found sermons in stones and everyday landscape.

Even in his abstract period in the early Thirties, Piper's paintings were view-friendly, theatrical stage sets lit by footlights, rather than severely geometrical. The viewer might not have understood the drama but could see that drama was there. His pictures may have been puzzling, sometimes surreal, but were not beyond conjecture.

As with many of his generation, the war brought a new intensity to Piper's work. Some of his most memorable paintings was when he was commissioned to record British architecture before, and after, the effects of bombing. A stormy light pervades his

famous paintings of Windsor Castle and other national monuments of the period. All things pass, even old stones. But Piper's work on the threat to the English heritage in the days when the heavens were falling caught the nation's mood. Critics called it romantic nostalgia, but it was an English vision drawn both from nature and abstract patterns.

Piper continued to paint buildings until he had produced the most extensive record of British topography of any painter this century. There were few media that he did not try, becoming the most versatile artist of his generation. His figurative stained glass tells Bible stories in the windows of Eton College Chapel. In the new Coventry Cathedral, the shifting sun changes his abstract greens and reds through the day. He illustrated books, designed for the theatre and opera, wrote on the arts and the countryside, even designed textiles for Liberty's. His versatility, his obsession with English topography, his very parochialism, were his inspiration and his claim to fame.

In his combination of populism with seriousness, Piper resembled his friends and collaborators, John Bejman, with whom he produced *Shell Guides* to the counties, and Benjamin Britten, who like them stood a little outside the Modernist tradition in his art. Piper's paintings had decency and pretentiousness, which are not vices, but suffered from an age that regarded them as such. His seaside shapes were the eternal English beach. His church towers were the eternal towers. Some artists have come to seem mirrors of their era: Holbein, Van Dyck, Reynolds, Renoir. Piper's vision will be a potent witness of how it was to be English in the middle of the 20th century.

Drama reduction on Radio 3

From Mr Douglas Adams and others

Sir, We are greatly concerned about the BBC's proposal to halve the output of drama on Radio 3 this autumn. Radios 3 and 4 provide unique opportunities and encouragement for new writers, especially now that it is becoming so much more difficult to introduce new writers into the theatre and television.

There are few signs that the independent radio companies will produce much drama. We therefore think it all the more important that the BBC should not reduce its commitment to broadcasting the present excellent range of original plays, dramatisations and adaptations.

There will be at most around three hours of drama on Radio 3 per week if the proposed cut takes place and this will be drama not just for the new dramatists but will include the classical repertoire. This compares to some 70-80 hours devoted to music each week on Radio 3. We regard this as a travesty and a great disservice to our playwrights.

Radio drama has been at the heart of public service broadcasting and should remain so.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS ADAMS,
STAN BARTSTOW,
ALAN BENNETT, SIMON BRETT,
SHIRLEY GEE, HAROLD PINTER,
GILLIAN REYNOLDS,
BRIAN SIBLEY,
TOM STOPPARD,
ELIZABETH TROOP, DAVID WADE,
FAY WELDON.
The Society of Authors,
84 Drayton Gardens, SW10,
June 26.

Keeping up influence

From Dr Henry Watson

Sir, At a symposium I attended in Amsterdam (June 14-18) arranged by the European organisation covering the paint industry and its raw materials, the principal subjects were the environment and the reduction in the use of harmful solvents. Out of about 500 delegates only 17 were from Britain.

The main language of the conference is English. These conferences are of extreme value, especially the exchange of ideas and knowledge of a non-confidential character between scientists and technologists.

If we wish to maintain English as the main scientific language in Europe we had better give greater support to this type of symposium, not necessarily in the chemical industry but in many other branches of technology; otherwise we may be replaced by the Germans, as was the case earlier this century.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY WATSON
(Chemical consultant),
284 Warwick Road,
Solihull, West Midlands.
June 24.

Scottish prickles

From Dr Mary Noble

Sir, I am sorry that Miss Elizabeth Clark (letter, June 23) should be so angry that the Scots "lay claim" to Peter Rabbit (report, June 12). Beatrix Potter's famous letter about four little rabbits, including Peter, was written from Dunkeld, Perthshire, so he was at least "conceived" there.

Beatrix's journal for 1892, when she had a long holiday in Birnam close to Dunkeld, tells how she visited Kitty McDonald, the washerwoman from earlier days at nearby Dalguise House. Kitty was undoubtedly the prototype of Mrs Tiggy-winkle, a point beautifully made in the BBC film by Mike Healey, starring Helena Bonham-Carter.

It was also in 1892 that Beatrix met and discussed fungi with the Perthshire naturalist and postie Charles McIntosh and it was the discovery some 15 years ago of letters from Beatrix to Charlie on this subject, now in the National Library of Scotland, that sparked off new interest in Beatrix as a naturalist.

Yours sincerely,
MARY NOBLE,
33 Golf Course Road,
Bonnyrigg, Midlothian.
June 26.

Czechoslovak rift

From Mr Robin Bruce Lockhart

Sir, As one who lived in Czechoslovakia in its 1920 infancy, although admittedly in my cradle, I am deeply saddened at the pending rift between Czechs and Slovaks.

Thomas Masaryk dedicated his life to the freedom of both peoples and raised the standard of living of even the humblest of both. He must be weeping in his grave, as must his son Jan, who was never happier than when singing Slovak songs.

My father, the late Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart, who loved Jan Masaryk as a brother, once said that were all the leaders of the Slavs in Europe to be locked up in a castle for the weekend with Jan Masaryk they would emerge on the Monday morning with all their differences solved. Alas, there is no Jan Masaryk today.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN BRUCE LOCKHART,
Quint Mèrue,
Rue Romain Rolland,
66190 Collioure,
Pyrénées Orientales, France.
June 25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Politics, economics and mythology

From the Headmaster of Repton School

Sir, Bryan Appleyard's reduction of economics to a mythology ("Lies, damned lies, and economics", June 24) disregards the fact that the subject is a social science, which is analysing people's behaviour in a systematic way. That it can never achieve the predictive exactitude of physical science is largely due to the fact that behaviour patterns can change.

However, it is undoubtedly right that economic theory can be hijacked by politicians and blindly applied. Those of us who were reading for the Economics Tripos at Cambridge in the 1960s can well remember how our professors and lecturers deserted us for Whitehall as they were all too eagerly snapped up by a Labour government seeking to work miracles. Bryan Appleyard is right to compare that with the Thatcherite fascination for monetarism as a quick solution to the endemic problem of inflation.

Keynes had already warned that "practical men, who believe themselves to be quite exempt from any intellectual influences, are usually the slaves of some defunct economist". He saw the science as "a method rather than a doctrine, an apparatus of the mind, a technique of thinking which helps its possessor to draw correct conclusions". As such it has been more powerful in furthering our understanding of the workings of the economic system than your columnist gives credit.

Yours faithfully,
G. E. JONES,
Headmaster, Repton School,
The Hall, Repton, Derby,
June 25.

From Sir Graham Hills

Sir, I would agree with Bryan Appleyard's strictures on the limitations of economics and its proponents. It nevertheless needs to be said that its shortcomings are shared by almost all academic disciplines. It is only because of its political prominence that economics deserves and receives bigger stick than the rest.

The bread-and-butter aspects of economics are as helpful and reliable as those aspects of any other discipline. It is when it strays into abstractions and theoretical musings that it loses its way by letting go of reality. Other high-profile, semi-scientific subjects, such as psychology, education and architecture, are equally prone to absurdities.

Even low-profile, nearly scientific subjects, such as chemistry and physics, are not averse to looking

where the light is and to ensuring that the facts fit the theories.

It seems that the human race has a predilection to avoid immovable realities in favour of the more free-wheeling realms of insubstantial thought. How else can we explain the attraction of politics, philosophy, economics and the many other -isms and -isms?

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM HILLS,
Sunnyside of Threepwood,
Leigh Threepwood,
Beith, Ayrshire.

From Sir Samuel Goldman

Sir, Economists have always been rather naive in their understanding of the relation between economics and the real hard world of politics, with political policies in adversarial battle for electoral victory and power. It was so during the Keynesian ascendancy up to 1979 (or a little earlier) when the fixation on "growth" at all costs suited the politicians' book, especially before elections. Hence stop-go for many years.

It was so during the monetary counter-revolution when "control over the money supply" and "not paying ourselves more than we earn" became, to use a well-known Marxist metaphor, fig-leaves for a drastic anti-inflationary policy designed to squeeze out Britain's notorious industrial over-manning or curb the power of the unions, whatever the cost in unemployment.

And so it was again in 1986 when, with another election imminent, the monetarist fig-leaves were dropped and under Mr Lawson and the then prime minister both monetary and fiscal policies were used in the most extreme Keynesian fashion to boost the economy and cut unemployment, the consequences of which are still with us.

What is needed is a new kind of political economy which focuses on the relationship between economics, or rather economic policy, and what I have called real-world politics. Economists in government employ will always find it difficult to stand up to their political masters (and paymasters). It behoves less-implicated workers in the field to remedy the deficiency, though it must be admitted not all of these are models of objectivity.

Yours faithfully,
S. GOLDMAN,
3 Little Tangle,
Womersley, Guildford, Surrey,
June 24.

Business letters, page 23

Proper payments

From the Secretary, Pharmaceutical General Council (Scotland)

Sir, Your heading, "Honour without profit", to Professor Finney's letter (June 22) misses the point. I am sure that nobody would wish to make a profit from service on committees etc., but they should not be expected to incur a loss.

In the pharmaceutical world, proprietors of community pharmacies are often called to serve on statutory and advisory bodies. These invariably meet during the working day when, by law, a pharmacist must be present to supervise the dispensing of prescriptions and sale of medicines.

This requirement means that a locum pharmacist must be engaged to cover the period of absence, at a minimum cost of £10 per hour and often much more. The maximum daily amount which may be claimed for reimbursement is £38.50.

As Professor Finney states, such rules restrict technical consultative advice. Payment should not be excessive, but sufficient to ensure

that those giving such advice are not out of pocket.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN VIRDEN, Secretary,
Pharmaceutical General Council (Scotland),
34 York Place, Edinburgh 1.

From Mr Donald F. Evans

Sir, The situation is worse than Professor Finney states. UK participation in the preparation of Eurocodes is essential if the experience and expertise available in Britain is to be included in the new codes to which we will be obliged to conform.

If the meeting of the code-drafting committee is held outside the UK the British Standards Institution offers only 80 per cent of the cost of an economy flight to the town at which it is to be held — nothing more.

How will the BS1 find the experts willing to represent the UK on such terms?

Yours faithfully,
D. F. EVANS
(Civil engineering consultant),
7 Buckmore Avenue,
Petersfield, Hampshire.

A 'half-free' press?

From the Editor of the Hampstead & Highgate Express

Sir, Your correspondents of June 22, Gerald Long and David Flint, have thankfully brought some balance back to the somewhat hysterical reactions to the publication in newspapers of material which appeared initially in a book that is proving to be a best-seller.

They rightly raise the dilemmas that confront a half-free press in Britain, identifying the need for urgent reforms in legislation, particularly as far as libel and contempt are concerned, in a country that is obsessively secret to an extent that it corrodes natural justice.

But who is flying the flag of freedom? Where are the great editors demanding these changes? Who is lobbying Parliament to ensure that such fundamentals are at least debated by those not activated by self-interest and/or the need to hide behind secrecy's cloak?

Japanese pagoda tree

From the Bishop of St Albans

Sir, I was concerned to read (report and photograph, June 20) about the threat to the Japanese pagoda tree at Cambridge. At St Albans we have the privilege at Abbey Gate House of caring for one of the original five specimens obtained for Kew Gardens in 1753, when the *Sophora japonica* was introduced into England. We have a faint sepia photograph of the household servants gathered on the lawn in 1884, when the *Sophora* tree was almost 50 ft high. The height of the house, possibly nearly 50 ft.

In 1917 the tree was thought to be suffering from old age, but in March 1933 a Mr Balfour Gourlay, from Cambridge Trees Preservation Society, wrote that there was a "fine specimen in the Bishop of St Albans' garden" and we have that letter on file. The tree must be nearer 80 ft now, and was wired for safety across its main boughs in 1976.

In our 12 years here in the diocese it has flowered, gloriously, only once: in September 1989, after a long hot

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

Talking points in Aids treatment

From Professor R. T. D. Oliver

Sir, The controversy surrounding the Birmingham Aids case and the rapid death of an HIV-infected girl from pneumocystis pneumonia (report, June 23) seem to me still not to have been sufficiently discussed.

The presence of Arthur Ashe at Wimbledon is living proof of how proper early treatment of Aids can be followed by prolonged normal life. Survival chances have improved dramatically, so that recent reports from San Francisco show that more than 50 per cent of individuals diagnosed as HIV positive will not die of Aids within ten years. This is a dramatic change from the certain instant death implied by newspaper coverage of the Aids epidemic in the early 1980s.

It has long been known, but also little discussed, that the higher incidence of syphilis in the United States compared with the UK was in part a reflection of confidential partner-notification by our genital medicine services. Sadly the Aids epidemic has severely curtailed such tracing, partly because of the difficulty of making contact with partners in the gay community, partly because of fears that the insurance industry would impose punitive premiums on individual policies.

It is time the media started to emphasise the positive message that discovery of HIV status leading to prompt treatment can be life-saving. Perhaps the insurance industry could be persuaded to understand that confidential partner-notification and early treatment offer the best way to contain the risk. They could even support this initiative by investing 1 per cent of the potential savings they might gain from it.

One final under-discussed issue in relation to the spread of HIV by means of heterosexual intercourse is sexual activity during the menstrual period. This could be of even greater importance in the spread of the HIV virus than anal intercourse, mentioned in your report today in the aftermath of the Birmingham case.

The Jewish tradition that women should not have sexual relations during the menses dates from long before our current Aids epidemic, as does circumcision, another tradition of Jewish sexual hygiene which, research in Africa suggests, provides a degree of protection against the spread of the HIV virus.

One wonders whether they might have been introduced in biblical times because of the extent of sexually-transmitted disease. With a safe vaccine many years away, perhaps we need to re-examine those old ideas.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. D. OLIVER,
The London Hospital Medical College,
Department of Medical Oncology,
The Royal London Hospital,
Whitechapel, E1,
June 29.

From Lord Kilmarock and Professor Roy Anderson, FRs

Sir, In the light of the recent tragic case of the four women who are known to have been infected with HIV as a result of having had sexual intercourse with the HIV-positive Birmingham man suffering from haemophilia, we would like to draw attention to the dangers of the misleading view, recently given prominence in the press, that there is no direct connection between HIV and Aids.

These latest cases add yet further support to the view held by the vast majority of the scientific and medical communities that HIV is easily transmitted via penetrative intercourse in heterosexual partnerships and that HIV infection is a necessary factor in the development of the lethal disease Aids.

These facts have been dramatically demonstrated by the pattern of spread in Africa, where the overwhelming majority of cases are heterosexual in origin, but perhaps examples closer to home will open people's eyes to the dangers of unprotected sex.

Yours faithfully,
KILMARNOCK (Chairman, All-party Parliamentary Group on Aids),
ROY ANDERSON,
1 The Abbey Garden,
Great College Street, SW1.

Measure for measure

From Mr J. T. Ward

Sir, A mathematics teacher of my acquaintance would like to know how Mr Michael Grosvenor Meyer's mathematical acquaintance could afford to order 100 metric rulers (letter, June 22). Had his school just "opted out"?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES T. WARD,
30 Bennett Park, Blackheath, SE3.

summer. The flowers were creamy yellow and resembled wisteria blooms in shape. For several years running it has suffered "summer branch drop": various limbs do appear to be dying back and it is trimmed every two or three years. But its value for shape and shade are unsurpassed.

More important, it is host to innumerable birds, insects and squirrels, to judge from the continual activity in its branches.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN ST ALBANS,
Abbey Gate House,
St Albans, Hertfordshire,
June 23.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

The Rt Hon Christopher Patten was received by the Queen upon his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Hong Kong.

Mrs Patten was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir John Boyd was received by the Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

Lady Boyd was also received by Her Majesty.

Mr Robin Kernick was received by the Queen upon his retirement as Clerk of the Royal College.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, visited the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club, Brancaster, King's Lynn, Norfolk, today.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, International President of WWF - World Wide Fund for Nature, left from Royal Air Force Marham for a visit to Norway.

The Lord Buzon is in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Methodists welcome God the Mother

By RUTH GLEDHILL

RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

METHODISTS welcomed the notion of a female God yesterday, heralding an era of hymns, prayers and religious pamphlets referring to God as "She" and Jesus Christ as "Mother".

Writing of God as a woman will be encouraged in all Methodist publications, and preachers and worship leaders will be urged to avoid "exclusive" language that goes against "Christian beliefs in the equal standing of women and men".

The Methodist Conference, in Newcastle upon Tyne, adopted a report that says there are no theological objections to calling God "Mother" and many good reasons for doing so. The vote, taken after a debate presided over by the Rev Kathleen Richardson, Methodistism's first woman president, was overwhelmingly in favour of the report.

The decision makes the Methodist church the first mainstream denomination in Britain to adopt so-called inclusive language. Traditionalists in all the churches fear such language is a sign of liberalism and are concerned that it challenges fundamental Christian doctrine.

The Methodist report yesterday survived criticism from some ministers that it failed to express adequately the doctrine of the Trinity. Arguing for its adoption by the conference, the Rev John Harrod, convenor of the working party that produced the report and a lecturer at Wesley College, Bristol, said: "Of course male imagery should still be used. The



Equal before God: four ministers, Rosemary Wakelin, Doreen Hare, Nichola Jones and Alison Geary at the conference in Newcastle upon Tyne, chaired by Methodistism's first woman president

question we were asked is, 'Are there theological objections to using female imagery alongside and to balance the male?'

"This report argues there are no persuasive objections. If God is neither male nor female, if male and female are together made in the divine image, then it follows that God may be spoken of through female as well as male imagery."

He said the maleness of the image of God the father was not essential to its meaning. "I don't think we can escape the charge that the main

reason why the church has majored on the male imagery is because it has been part of a male-dominated society, a society which has seen the male as the norm of the human."

The Rev Doreen Hare, a feminist theologian representing Manchester and Stockport, said the report was a step on the road away from patriarchy. The Rev David Haslam, of south west London, said he had rediscovered the meaning of the Trinity by speaking of the Holy Spirit as female. "I hope we will all rediscover the feminine God."

Mr Richardson remained impassive as her father-in-law, the Rev Sidney Richardson, representing Oxford and Leicester, criticised the report that "thought they could impose the right thought by imposing the right language." He said: "We have been calling God father for a few centuries. It will take a fairly long time for people ready to accommodate themselves to God the mother."

The Rev Roger Ducker, chairman of the Leeds district, said: "I very much fear that there is a sort of thought

belief that is imposing a kind of political correctness. This is sinister, to my way of thinking. He asked who would decide what was exclusive and what was inclusive.

After the debate the Rev Rosemary Wakelin, one of five women on the working party, which also included two men, said: "Male imagery is not wrong and we are not trying to lose any of it. But on its own it gives a distorted image. Methodists resist change as much as anyone else but if something has the ring of truth they will allow their minds to be changed."

Cambridge Tripos results

Architecture Tripos Part IA

Class I: J. J. R. (1st), D. M. (2nd), J. M. (3rd), J. M. (4th), J. M. (5th), J. M. (6th), J. M. (7th), J. M. (8th), J. M. (9th), J. M. (10th), J. M. (11th), J. M. (12th), J. M. (13th), J. M. (14th), J. M. (15th), J. M. (16th), J. M. (17th), J. M. (18th), J. M. (19th), J. M. (20th), J. M. (21st), J. M. (22nd), J. M. (23rd), J. M. (24th), J. M. (25th), J. M. (26th), J. M. (27th), J. M. (28th), J. M. (29th), J. M. (30th), J. M. (31st), J. M. (32nd), J. M. (33rd), J. M. (34th), J. M. (35th), J. M. (36th), J. M. (37th), J. M. (38th), J. M. (39th), J. M. (40th), J. M. (41st), J. M. (42nd), J. M. (43rd), J. M. (44th), J. M. (45th), J. M. (46th), J. M. (47th), J. M. (48th), J. M. (49th), J. M. (50th), J. M. (51st), J. M. (52nd), J. M. (53rd), J. M. (54th), J. M. (55th), J. M. (56th), J. M. (57th), J. M. (58th), J. M. (59th), J. M. (60th), J. M. (61st), J. M. (62nd), J. M. (63rd), J. M. (64th), J. M. (65th), J. M. (66th), J. M. (67th), J. M. (68th), J. M. (69th), J. M. (70th), J. M. (71st), J. 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OBITUARIES

JOHN PIPER

John Piper, CH, painter, stage designer and author, died at his home near Henley on June 28 aged 88. He was born in Epsom on December 13, 1903.

JOHN Piper believed in things English and in many ways he was summed up by the house in which he lived for more than fifty years shrouded by the woods close to the Thames near Henley. His garden, which provided much of the produce cooked by his wife Myfanwy and was celebrated in some of his later work, was very English, in parts gloriously so. His immense kitchen with quantities of china mugs suspended from hooks could only have been found in rural England. The only thing he did not much care for about Henley was the annual regatta and the arrival of what Myfanwy called "Leanderthal Man".

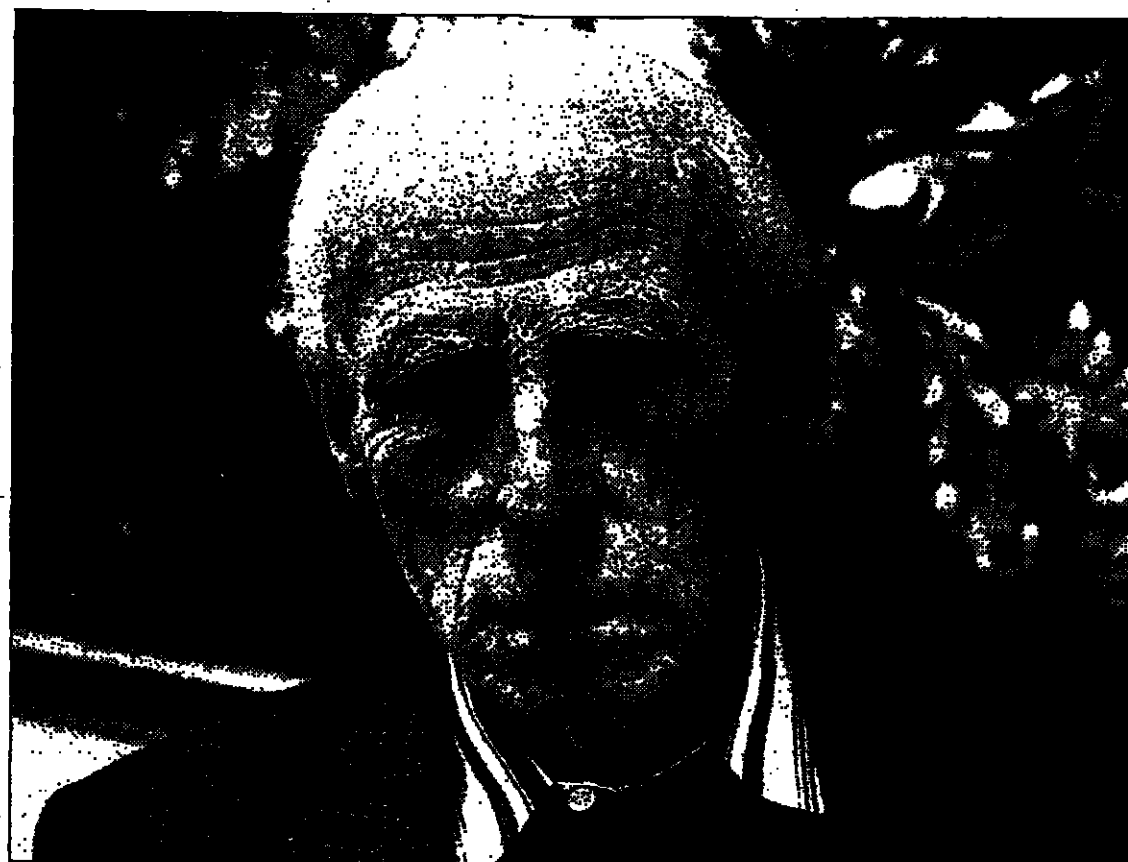
The churches he sketched tended to be English, although there was an early series devoted to Welsh non-conformist chapels. For some of them he designed stained glass windows. Much of his best stage work came in his sets for the operas of his friend, Benjamin Britten. Inevitably, he was accused of being too insular, to which he was apt to reply that Constable went no further than the Lake District.

John Piper was enormously hard-working and versatile, making a vast contribution to British sensibility and vision over many decades and in many media. His painting went through both representational and abstract periods. Beyond that he devoted himself to printmaking, collage, illustration, stage design, stained glass, tapestry, fabric design, ceramics, poetry, art and theatre criticism, topography and the visual guidebook. He was an artist who persuaded more people to use their own eyes.

John Piper went to Epsom College as a day boy. He had already in his teens begun to make topographical notebooks of architecture around the southeast of England illustrated with drawings and photographs: it is said that he had visited every church in Surrey by the age of 12. From 1921 to 1926 he was an articled clerk in the solicitors' office of his father. On the latter's death in 1926, Piper abandoned the law and attended Richmond School of Art under Raymond Coxon. In 1927, the year he met Brangwyn at the house of Jim Ede in Hampstead, he transferred to the Royal College of Art, where he was taught painting by Morris Kestelman, and lithography and stained glass by Francis Spear. He married a fellow student, Eileen Holding, in 1929.

During the 1930s Piper contributed art and theatre criticism to *The Listener* and the *New Statesman* and exhibited with the London Group. His paintings were linked by commentators with such other young artists as Ivon Hitchens, Winifred and Ben Nicholson, Frances Hodgkins and Victor Pasmore: some of his early paintings recall those of Christopher Wood. In 1934 Piper was elected a member of the 7 & 5 Society, which was dedicated initially to "non-representational" art at this time Piper was interested in a cubistic form of abstraction.

It was in 1934 that Piper met Myfanwy Evans, writer, art magazine editor and, later, opera librettist, whom he was to marry as his second wife in 1937. So close was their working partnership during



the rest of their lives together that their individual achievements cannot be precisely separated, least of all by the art historian. Piper used to claim she was his first and last critic and regularly paid tribute to her acute intelligence.

Piper's contributions to pure abstract painting in the early 1930s were — and remain — visually strong; but he rejected abstraction by 1937 because it lost the lively nourishment of subject. In 1936 Piper had met John Betjeman — another collaborator whose vision was to be ultimately difficult to distinguish from Piper's own, and whose Anglicanism converted Piper. The gathering clouds of war and their travels together in the preparation of the *Shell Guides* to individual counties of England combined to develop an appreciation of the visual heritage of Britain which the war served to intensify and deepen and make more immediate, more vital and more national. It began to transcend the conventional labels of "romantic nostalgia" and "neo-romanticism". "Visionary topography" might be a better description of Piper's work of this period.

The essential components of his art had come together by the time that he was sent as a war artist to record in November 1940 the bomb devastation of Coventry Cathedral. They include a strong abstract underpinning in the design of a painting and a sense of visual drama, continuously developing from 1937 when he joined Group Theatre as designer along with Robert Medley (working with Britten as composer, Isherwood as dramatist, and Rupert Doone as dancer-choreographer).

He shared with Betjeman an appreciation of the appeal of details of architecture or townscape dismissed by others as too ordinary or too debased. Piper's own eye was acute for the exact representation of architecture, a skill fostered by stage design, by scratching and scrubbing the surface of his paintings so that there is a feeling of time and the elements at work on both architecture and landscape. His flirtation

with Cubism gave him the freedom to make passing allusions to many facets of a scene, both visual and emotional, within one work. Piper himself summed it up simply as "a feeling for places ... trying to see what hasn't been seen before".

But what deepens all this and makes, for instance, the 26 watercolours of Windsor commissioned by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (then Queen consort) in 1941-42, at the instigation of Sir Kenneth Clark, and which now hang in a single room at Clarence House, into something approaching a national monument in themselves, is a further artistry. There is an intense and dramatic visual presentation of the poignancy of the transient set against the timeless: part of the impulse for the commission was the fear in 1941 that Windsor Castle could be bombed into obliteration at any time. And there is another poignant ambivalence movingly transcended in the paintings of wartime devastation: the 1930s sense of indulgent pleasure in ruins and their surrounding emotional atmosphere, strangely redeems and transmutes 1940s' destruction and points gloriously, not to the tragedy of war but to the vision of that which is beyond destruction.

For many, it is Piper's paintings of the 1940s which call most deeply to the spirit; even such a peaceful subject as Gordale Scar, painted in 1943, is a masterpiece with all the resonance of a major work by Henry Moore. This sombre mood was to be unexpectedly prolonged into the neo-romanticism of the early 1950s: the gloom of the wartime 1940s gave way only briefly to a few years of exhausted post-war euphoria before the nuclear clouds of the Cold War returned in the 1950s.

After the intensities of war, which called work of similar quality out of several other war artists, some art critics complained that Piper spread himself too thinly. If there was truth in that then enthusiasts for theatre, opera, ballet, stained glass, book illustration, architecture, gardening and other arts can only have felt

grateful for the proliferation of Piper's interests.

He had already appeared regularly on television from 1936; and in 1938 his *Shell Guide to Oxfordshire* had been published, as well as his set designs for Stephen Sondheim's *Trials of a Judge* at the Unity Theatre. From 1945 he illustrated all five volumes of Sir Osbert Sitwell's autobiography. In 1946 Piper designed the scenery and costumes for the premiere of Benjamin Britten's *Rape of Lucretia* at Glyndebourne, to be followed by *Albert Herring* in 1947 and a further close involvement with the English Opera Group at Aldeburgh.

For the Festival of Britain in 1951 Piper designed the mural for the exterior of the Homes and Gardens pavilion and also, with Osbert Lancaster, was responsible for the decoration of the Main Vista. Piper fitted in as well that year four major theatrical productions, for the English Opera Group, Sadler's Wells Ballet, Glyndebourne, and most famously, Britten's *Billy Budd* at Covent Garden; also two exhibitions in Philadelphia and London. Closer to home he took on the lease of the Kenton Theatre at Henley-on-Thames. That work programme was not untypical of any year of Piper's life.

In 1953 came sets and costumes for Britten's *Gloriana*; while in 1954, Myfanwy Piper's libretto for Britten's *Turn of the Screw* brought Piper even closer to the Red House and the Aldeburgh group. The year 1957 brought the commission for the vast stained glass wall of the Baptistry at Coventry Cathedral, in collaboration with Patrick Reynolds; this was finished and consecrated in 1962.

The 1960s began for Piper with Britten's *Midsummer Night's Dream*; in 1964-65, he worked on the tapestry for a screen behind the high altar at Chichester Cathedral; in 1967 he completed the stained glass for St Margaret's, Westminster, and also for Liverpool Cathedral.

The designs for the television production of Britten's *Owen Wingrave* in 1971, subsequently performed at the Royal Opera House in 1973, were perhaps less successful. Myfanwy Piper provided the libretto for this, based on Henry James, as she did for Britten's final opera, *Death in Venice*, for the 1973 Aldeburgh Festival. For that the Piper sets in Colin Graham's production remained unchallenged until the revival earlier this year at Covent Garden.

Piper had his first public exhibition of ceramics in 1972; and he broke further new ground when in 1979 — the year of the stained glass for the Robinson College Chapel in Cambridge, and the Benjamin Britten Memorial Window at Aldeburgh — he designed the firework display at the opening of the extension to the Tate Gallery.

And in between all these major commissions Piper fulfilled hundreds of other commissions — all given high professional attention and preparation. He found time, not for holidays, which he never took, he said, but for working trips abroad, bringing back memorable imagery from the great churches of France and from the architectural theatricality of Venice; and he even managed to find time to carry out official duties: as a member of the Fine Art Commission from 1960; of the Oxfordshire Diocesan Advisory Committee from 1960; and as a trustee of the Tate Gallery from 1946 to 1960, a trustee until, where he was praised for his "enthusiasm, his openmindedness, his good sense, his natural modesty and his excellent taste". He was appointed a Companion of Honour in 1972.

John Piper's retrospective at the Tate Gallery in 1983-4 revealed the achievement of an artist who had for some years been neglected or dismissed by certain critics as a lightweight too prone in his painting to the facile, the theatrical and the repetitious. Those critics were apt to ignore that in each separate decade he scaled a separate height: in the 1930s the illustrated guides, in the 1940s the paintings, in the 1950s the theatre designs, and in the 1960s the stained glass, which may well become his most lasting monument. All these achievements are commanding. As a "topographical visionary" Piper stands in a very special relationship to Turner, whose increased popularity may well owe something to his Henley advocate.

A born collaborator, who leaves a huge wake of friends from his multitude of enterprises (for he treated all around as equals), Piper's most elusive achievement is that he was one of a group of mid-twentieth century men — Nikolaus Pevsner, J. M. Richards, John Betjeman, Osbert Lancaster, Gordon Cullen among them — who have taught us to look at Britain's visual heritage and see it, not in vain nostalgia, but with enjoyment and for what it is. He is an artist whose stature is to be measured by the sum total of moments of individual human awareness, exhilaration and vision. These he brought to those who look at pictures, to theatre audiences, to readers of books and to church congregations alike.

His friend John Russell once described him thus: "Tall, trim, spare and erect, with the features of an accessible Montezuma, and the gait of one limbering up for the hop, step and jump." He is survived by his second wife Myfanwy.

MUHAMMAD BOUDIAF

Muhammad Boudiaf, President of Algeria, was assassinated yesterday aged 73, as he inaugurated a cultural centre in the eastern Algerian town of Annaba. He was born in the M'Sila region south-east of Algiers on June 23, 1919.

Muhammad Boudiaf, a hero of Algeria's war of independence against the French, was brought back from 27 years of exile in January to become president of the country's high state council in a manoeuvre to thwart Muslim fundamentalists from gaining power. It was a moment of crisis, when three decades of authoritarian mismanagement and corruption on the part of the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) had made the country ripe for revolution. In the midst of an election in which the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front appeared likely to assert itself, Chadli Benjedid, the previous president, resigned and the country's political and military leadership announced the cancellation of the election and the appointment of Boudiaf to lead a five-man council of state.

At the time, Muhammad Boudiaf had been living in relative obscurity as the owner of a brick factory in Morocco but during the Algerian war against the French he was one of the top five leaders of the FLN and was regarded as the ideological theoretician of the revolution.

Living during his school years in the rural region of M'Sila, some 180 miles to the southeast of Algiers, he then joined the French colonial army becoming an adjutant. Soon, however, he developed links with the urban guerrillas of the FLN and deserted in 1950, four years before the war of independence began in earnest. By 1954 he had become one of the 22 members of the FLN's leadership council.

He was captured by the French in 1956 along with Ben Bella, the FLN leader, and two other senior rebels, when the plane in which they were flying from Morocco to Tunis was forced down at Algiers. By French fighter planes. Six years later when President de Gaulle of France signalled the end of the conflict and eventual Algerian independence in a speech announcing a cease-fire, Boudiaf was immediately released, together with Ben Bella and three other senior FLN officials, and flown in a plane provided specially by the French government from Paris to Geneva and freedom. By this time he had become a deputy premier in the proposed provisional government. However, the provisional government quickly split apart and during the ensuing power struggle

Boudiaf emerged as the arch-opponent of Ben Bella, the dissident vice-president, who was attempting to depose Ben Khedda, the provisional premier.

In July 1962 Boudiaf was abducted by troops loyal to Ben Bella and held for 24 hours but once Ben Bella had asserted his authority he was re-instated as deputy premier and placed in charge of foreign affairs. Within weeks however, Ben Bella abruptly and unexpectedly postponed the country's first general election indefinitely a week before it was due to take place. Boudiaf promptly resigned from the politburo saying the postponement showed that the politburo meant to stay in power for an indeterminate period.

A year later Boudiaf was linked with the leadership of a dissident group, the Socialist Revolutionary Party and was arrested on the instruction of Ben Bella who said there was a "plot against the state". After staging a hunger strike in protest at his internment at a Saharan oasis and losing 40lbs in weight Boudiaf was taken to hospital and after five months detention released.

He went into exile in 1964. When Colonel Houari Boumedienne deposed Ben Bella in a military coup a year later, Boudiaf was as critical of the new regime as he was of the old one. A staunch advocate of multi-party democracy he was a vociferous opponent of the one-party regime of the FLN which he accused of corruption, and authoritarianism. As a result, he acquired a reputation as a clean politician who had remained close to the people. It was as such that he was recalled by



the army after the electoral defeat of the first round of the general elections in January.

When he stepped off the plane onto Algerian soil to a red carpet welcome the first person to greet him was the defence minister. Boudiaf consented to the largely technocratic government of prime minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali remaining in place and let the army detain thousands of Islamic sympathisers, but was in office too briefly to live up to hopes some placed in him.

MIKHAIL TAL



Mikhail Nekhemeyevich Tal, former Soviet world chess champion, died in Moscow on June 28 aged 55. Tal was born in Riga, Latvia, on November 9, 1936.

WHO can tell what impact the brilliant Latvian chess grandmaster Mikhail Tal would have made on the history of chess had he not been the victim of prolonged paralysis and almost permanent bouts of ill-health? During the 1950s Tal's native talent blazed like a meteor amongst the stolid generations of chess grandmasters who had been brought up in the painstaking school of strategic accuracy promulgated by Botvinnik and Smyslov, those two great players whose matches for the world chess championship had dominated the period from 1954 to 1958.

To almost universal surprise amongst the chess pundits Tal dethroned the olympian Botvinnik in 1960. En route to this world championship challenge, Tal had confused, smashed and obliterated the world's elite with a sacrificial arsenal, the like of which had never before been seen. The experts asserted that Tal's style of play, bold, brilliant and hair-raising as it was, could not be sound. Nevertheless, in the practical struggle no one could find the holes in Tal's play that the theorists claimed were present.

Professor Nathan Divinsky, the Canadian master and author of the *Batford Chess Encyclopaedia*, reviewing Tal's style, wrote: "As Tal's successes increased, experts

pronounced his sacrifices unsound and assured the chess world that the big three, Keres, Smyslov and Botvinnik, would destroy him. They were astonished to see all of the big three fall before Tal's furious onslaught, crumbling under the depth of the complexities combined with the time pressure of a real game.

After Tal had defeated Botvinnik and reached the pinnacle of what chess had to offer, becoming at the age of 23 the youngest world champion so far in the history of the game, the chess world now expected that future glories would soon await their newly-crowned hero. Unfortunately, fate dictated otherwise. Unwisely and proudly refusing to postpone the 1961 revenge match, to which Botvinnik, as defeated champion, was entitled by the rules then prevailing, a sick Tal went down to an unmitigated disaster at the hands of the ex-champion.

Since that time, ironically, the unfair reverse match rule for a defeated world champion, though briefly revived for Karpov, has now been definitively dropped by the game's regulating body, the World Chess Federation.

Having been crushed by Botvinnik in this return match, Tal never again succeeded in his goal of qualifying for a title challenge. He did, though, remain a fierce tournament competitor, always likely to win first prize and in so doing demolished the very strongest of opponents with arcane sacrifices which baffled most expert observers.

Considering his ill-health, Tal's long run on the chess board was remarkable. In 1959 he enjoyed his greatest tournament triumph when he won by an overwhelming margin the Candidates' Tournament held in Yugoslavia, which swept him on to the challenge against Botvinnik. Twenty years later Tal achieved an almost equally remarkable performance at Montreal where, as the only undefeated player, he shared first prize with Karpov, ahead

of the strongest Grandmasters of the day. Even in 1988 Tal was still able to display his lightning speed of reaction when he won the world Blitz Chess Championship in Canada, ahead of both Kasparov and Karpov.

Born in Riga, the son of a doctor, the young Tal first showed an interest in chess when he saw the game being played in his father's waiting room. At the age of eight he became a member of the

chess section of the Palace of Young Pioneers in Riga, but it was not until he won the Latvian championship of 1953 that Tal started to make serious progress. He was not a child prodigy in the sense that Paul Morphy or Bobby Fischer were.

In 1957 Tal won the Soviet championship at Leningrad and went on to repeat this performance in his home town of Riga a year later. He fired the opening shots of his campaign to seize Botvinnik's world chess crown by a clear victory at the Interzonal tournament of 1958, held in Portoroz, Yugoslavia. He then went on to his greatest tournament triumph, the Candidates' Tournament of 1959, again held in Yugoslavia at Bled, Zagreb and Belgrade. Here, out of 28 games Tal won the enormous total of 16 and lost only four. It was at this tournament that the Hungarian Grandmaster Pal Benko donned dark glasses for one of his games against Tal to deflect his alleged powers of hypnotism during play.

By winning this event Tal became the official challenger and in 1960 he defeated Botvinnik in Moscow by the score of six wins to two losses with 13 draws. Tal thus became the youngest world champion up to that time, but a year later Tal lost the return match, also in Moscow, by the even more devastating margin of five wins with six draws but no fewer than ten losses.

Tal immediately embarked upon a fierce challenge but at the Curaçao Candidates Tournament of 1962, instead of the anticipated race between the young lions,

Mikhail Tal and Bobby Fischer, the tournament resulted in a narrow victory of attrition for the Fabian tactics of the ultra cautious Armenian Tigran Petrosian. During this tournament Tal's health collapsed and he had to withdraw well before the end. Never again, in spite of brilliant tournament victories, which included the Soviet championships of 1974 and 1978, or the Riga Interzonal of 1979, did Tal ever succeed in penetrating to a further world championship match.

Tal was born with one hand badly deformed and an excessively frail constitution. He suffered from chronic kidney disease, having one removed in 1969. His condition was exacerbated by his smoking and drinking to extraordinary excess.

Tal's love of chess, though, was paramount and he will go down as one of the all-time greats of the game. His record of six first prizes in Soviet championships has been equaled only by Botvinnik. Had his health been good Tal might have entered history as the greatest chess player of all time. Although a prolific journalist, Tal published just one book, a commentary on his victory in his first world championship match against Botvinnik in 1960.

It was ironic that, just as Latvia achieved its ambition of playing once again as an autonomous state in the Chess Olympics in Manila, which finished last week, Tal, a Latvian, who had spent his whole life representing the USSR, was too ill to make the Latvian team.

June 30 ON THIS DAY 1933

Parliamentary golf
Prince of Wales and Lady Astor

from our Golf Correspondent

The eagerly awaited match between the Prince of Wales and Lady Astor, in the semi-final round of the Parliamentary Handicap, was played yesterday, and the Prince won his first hole at the ninth and turned one down. Then began the most dramatic period of the match during which, for hole after hole, Lady Astor seemed to have her foe in her grip only to be robbed of her prey. Thus at the 11th, when she had a stroke, she played a lovely spoon shot to within six yards of the hole, only to see the Prince get nearer still with his pitch and hole a tick-saving putt. At the short 12th she was just over the green, while the Prince was bunkered, but he still got a half. Still this odd run of holes went on.

Finally, at the 15th, the Prince recovered cruelly well from a hooked second, holed a long putt and took the lead. Now for the 17th, a hole all in favour of the long-driving man. The Prince hit a very fine tee shot and could have got up in two; he topped his second into the heather, and it seemed that anything might happen. Poor Lady Astor had threatened her way skilfully past bunkers but could not beat a six, and the Prince made no mistake with his putt. He wanted a four for 87, but the scores do not do any justice to an extraordinarily interesting and exciting match. There were moments, indeed, which, as Mr Shute remarked, "curdle the ink in one's pen."

took four more to hole out, and only got a half.

He nearly drove the third green — a very long shot — and he reached the fourth hole, nearly a quarter of a mile long, in two, but he let his chances slip on the green. The sixth was perfectly halved in three, but the Prince, having apparently the seventh in the hollow of his hand, went far over the green into an unplayable bush, had to play another ball, and only saved himself by holing a tremendous putt. Perhaps the third shot was designed by Providence to that end, for from that moment he punted exceedingly well.

Lady Astor became two up at the eighth, a stroke hole which she played to admiration on the instalment system, but the Prince won his first hole at the ninth and turned one down. Then began the most dramatic period of the match during which, for hole after hole, Lady Astor seemed to have her foe in her grip only to be robbed of her prey. Thus at the 11th, when she had a stroke, she played a lovely spoon shot to within six yards of the hole, only to see the Prince get nearer still with his pitch and hole a tick-saving putt. At the short 12th she was just over the green, while the Prince was bunkered, but he still got a half. Still this odd run of holes went on.

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Arjo Wiggins Appleton price continues to slide

Greece drachma	351.77-356.23	Germany	1.5175-1.5180
Hong Kong dollar	14.7298-14.7299	Hong Kong	7.7900-7.7312
Indian rupee	47.35-48.25	Ireland	7.9590-7.9800
Kuwait dinar KD	5.9047-5.9554	Italy	2.0472-2.1069
Malaysia ringgit	4.7734-4.7781	Japan	128.12-125.98
Mexico peso	5.9505-6.0005	Malaysia	2.1053-2.1483
New Zealand dollar	3.4923-3.5014	Netherlands	1.7100-1.7110
Saudi Arabian riyal	4.8191-4.8191	Norway	5.945-5.9465
Singapore dollar	3.0823-3.0859	Portugal	126.75-120.95
S Africa rand (R)	7.0387-7.1730	Spain	16.075-16.086
S Africa rand (F)	7.2799-7.4552	Sweden	5.4825-5.4835
U A E dirham	6.9575-7.0425	Switzerland	1.3600-1.3670
Berlei-Bank Group	• Lloyd Bank		

CURRENCY RATES					
Base Rates: Gearing Ratio 10	Finance Hse 10%	Low 5%	Weak fixed: 10%		
Discount Market Loans: 2 month high: 10%					
Treasury Bills (Domestic): 1 month 5%; 3 mth 5% • Sell: 2 mth 5%; 3 mth 5% •					

Prime Bank Bill Rates (Day):	1 month	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Sterling Money Rates:	10%-10%	9%-9.75%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%
Interbank:	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%
Overnight: open 10%, close 9					

Local Authority Debts:	10%	n/a	10%	10%	10%
Sterling CDs:	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	9%-9%	9%-9%
Domestic CDs:	3 mth 7.74	n/a	3.80-3.76	3.84-3.80	4.25-4.23
Building Society CDs:	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%

ECGD: Free Sterling Open Finance. Make-up date: June 30, 1992. August closed July 20, 1992. August 25, 1992. Scheme 1: 11.29%, Schemes 1 & 2, 1992. Indexed rate May 30, 1992 to June 30, 1992. Scheme 4 & 5, 10.03%.

EUROPEAN MONEY RATES						
Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	9 mth	Call
Dollar:	3%-3%	3%-3%	3%-3%	4%-4%	4%-4%	4%-4%
Deutschmark:	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%
French Franc:	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%	10%-10%
Swiss Franc:	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%	9%-9%
Yen:	4%-4%	4%-4%	4%-4%	4%-4%	4%-4%	4%-4%

GOLD AND SILVER RATES			
Bullion: Open \$342.40-343.00	Close: \$342.30-342.70	High: \$342.35-343.75	
Low: \$341.10-341.60	Krugger: \$342.75-343.25	WTG: \$340.75-341.50	
Sovereigns: \$280.00-280.40 (\$240-310)	New \$81.00-81.00 (\$230-350)		
Platinum: \$367.25-369.50	Silver: \$3.80-3.85		

SECRET

Imro failing the acid test

The departure of the chairman at Imro, the self-regulatory body that polices the investment management business, is an honourable gesture in the best traditions of the City. His resignation though will be read as a confirmation that Imro fell short of its self-appointed duties in monitoring those firms that had stewardship of Maxwell pensioners' cash and increase the clamour for far more assistance for the stricken pensioners.

That Imro's performance was less than exemplary was already in the public domain through repeated leaks of an internal investigation conducted by the self-regulatory body itself. This talks of "lapses of judgement and an inability to relate diverse pieces of intelligence to make a whole picture." The very words echo widespread criticisms of the Department of Trade and Industry during the 1970s when it became clear that well intentioned civil servant regulators sitting in Whitehall offices were in no position to pick up the pieces in the financial markets which might lead to wrongdoers and their exposure. The Financial Services legislation which followed was intended to create a fast acting, flexible and practitioner based system of self-regulation which in theory should be far better able to cope with fraud, theft and other offences.

It is always difficult to catch determined and clever crooks if they intend that their tracks should be covered. But regulators like Imro should always be on the lookout for circumstances favourable to abuse. The fact that Robert Maxwell engineered for himself enormous power (and enormous conflict of interest) through multiple role-playing should have redoubled the attentions of the street-wise men at Imro. Maxwell was typically a controlling shareholder, chairman of the board, chairman of the pension fund trustees and chairman of the pension fund management company.

Self-regulation may be fine in theory, but is it working so well in practice? It would be easy for the Government to distance itself from Imro's failures as a localised breakdown in a healthy system. But it would be more realistic to regard it as further evidence that self-regulation may be failing the investing public.

Steel dented

Competing in a world of commodity products where state-owned producers dominate pricing can be a bruising affair. British Steel has made strenuous efforts to move downstream into areas where the shape, the coating, and the hour of delivery of a piece of steel distinguish it from the last billet off a boat from France, or elsewhere. Those efforts will continue. But there is no denying the surplus of steel capacity in the world, nor that too much of that capacity is directed by governments fearful of the politics of job cuts. In the space of just 12 months, British Steel slid from pre-tax profits of £254 million to losses of £55 million. At the trading level, the company is just breaking even. Many rivals must be doing worse still. Emboldened by the strength of its balance sheet, British Steel delayed cutting its dividend. But the £175 million dividend payment in the year just ended will account for half of the company's net cash outflow last year.

Sir Robert Scholey is leaving his successor, former RTZ chief Sir Alistair Frame, a company with many strengths. During a decade of heavy investment, British Steel cut its cost base and reinforced its technical skills. But is this enough to win a battle with state-sponsored rivals? The company's cash pile is now gone. Capital spending has been cut to the bone. More cost savings will be found, but less easily. Henceforth, British Steel should husband resources. State-owned competitors have deep pockets.

The demise of EFA would cost 60,000 jobs but save the taxpayer billions, say Wolfgang Münchau and Ross Tieman

Volker Rühe, the recently appointed German defence minister, took only a few weeks in his new job to become the bogymen of the European defence establishment. A seemingly innocent remark in a newspaper interview, suggesting that the costs of the European Fighter Aircraft (EFA) should be scaled down, led his European friends to conclude either that he had gone completely mad, or that he had acquired a sense of humour not usually associated with deliberations on weapons of destruction.

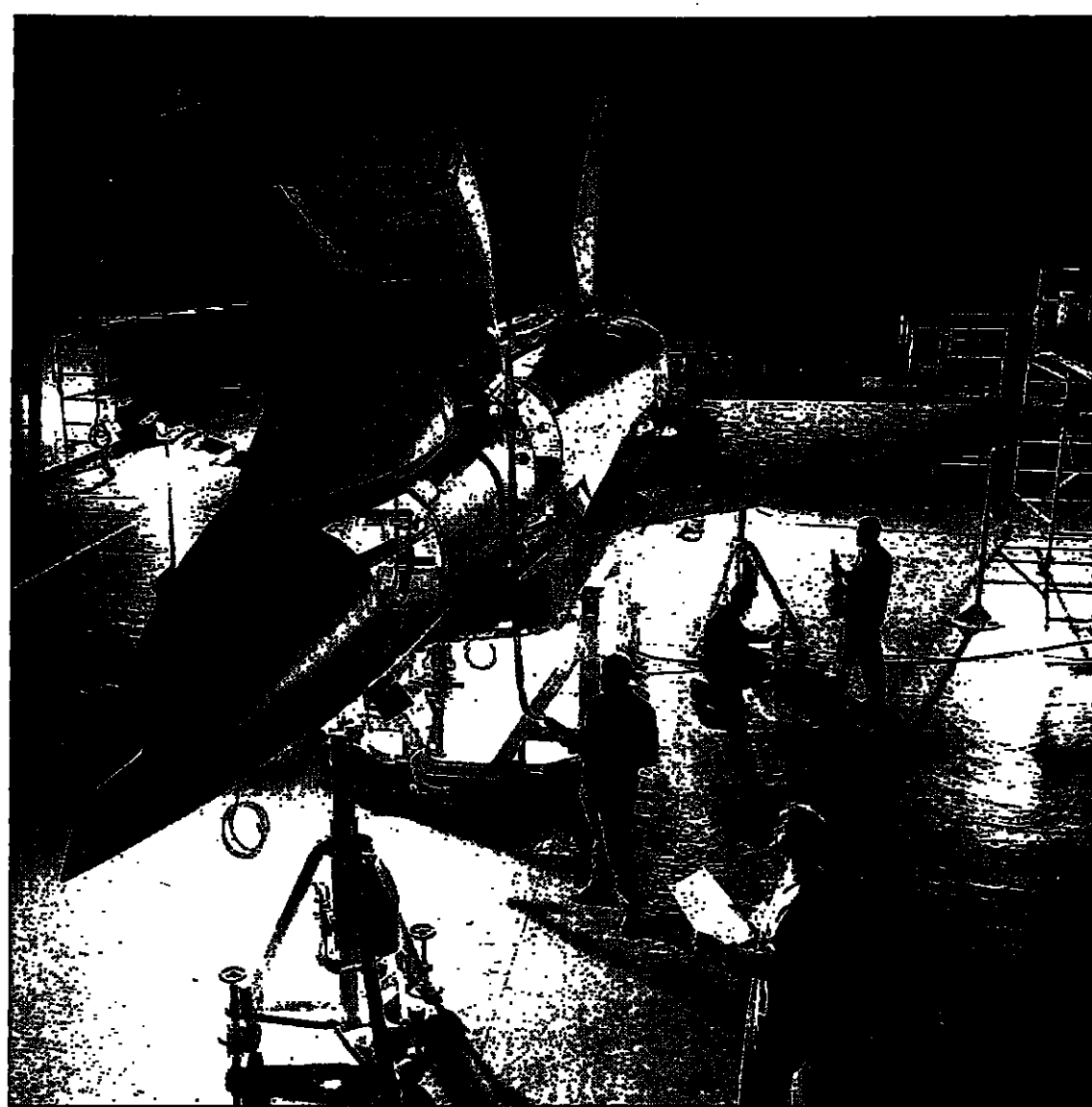
The EFA is the subject of an Anglo-German diplomatic fracas. The issue at stake is Germany's threatened withdrawal from the £22 billion project and Herr Rühe's "compromise" proposal, which would involve a cut in the cost of each EFA plane from an estimated DM150 million to about DM100 million. EFA's specification, concocted at a time when the cold war was still raging, went beyond present-day requirements according to Herr Rühe, and it would, therefore, make sense to go back to the drawing board and design a lighter version. An aerial Ford Fiesta, instead of a Porsche, perhaps. Or you might even keep the Porsche and fit it with a Rover engine, and leave out the sunroof, the stereo and the vanity mirror.

If only fighter plane economics were so simple. The notion that a minister is not always the intellectual master of his portfolio is not new, but Herr Rühe's remarks appeared to be in a league of their own. Jonathan Aitken, Britain's defence procurement minister, said the Rühe strategy was "an extravagant piece of nonsense" and he was right.

Herr Rühe's obvious dislike for the EFA may yet win the day. Today, the German cabinet is scheduled to vote on whether to stick it out or to withdraw from the project, saving German taxpayers up to DM30 billion. A compromise might be agreed on the lines of Herr Rühe's suggestion, but effectively this would be the same as pulling out.

The vote has been postponed twice, as Chancellor Helmut Kohl appears to be in two minds about the issue. He knows that the project has no domestic political support and funds saved from scrapping it could be used for the reconstruction of the eastern part of the country. Yet he does not want to look a bad European at such a sensitive moment.

The lure of the potential savings will be difficult to resist. If the four governments pouring money into the EFA were simply to send home the 60,000 workers the project would employ in full production and carry on paying their wages, it would be



Flying into turbulence: the EFA project faces a critical decision by the German cabinet today

more than 20 years before the cash ran out. Warplanes are expensive. National machismo aside, the decline of the eastern threat has made their appeal questionable even to British taxpayers, who have funded military spending far above Europe's average for half a century. To date, the EFA project has enjoyed cross-party support in the House of Commons. The Commons defence select committee, which produced a report on the EFA in March, concluded: "There is currently no sign of any suitable alternative to EFA which could begin to offer the same level of performance at an acceptable cost, with anything approaching comparable technological benefits."

The committee added important caveats. Even taking into account the capabilities of the Soviet-designed Mig-29 and Sukhoi SU27 fighters, which EFA was designed to counter, there were doubts, it reported, about whether the European plane needed to be so sophisticated. There were also doubts about whether the RAF really needed 250.

Few deny the need for a new fighter to equip the air forces of the main European countries. Italy still relies heavily for its air defence upon the F104 Starfighter, a plane now very long in the tooth. Germany and Spain have F4 Phantoms, a design

that saw action in Vietnam. Britain relies upon Phantoms and a fighter version of the Tornado multi-role jet. These planes are outclassed by the most recent designs from the former Soviet Union. They are also wearing out. And by comparison with more recent machines, they are expensive to maintain and operate.

The first production aircraft from the EFA programme are scheduled to be wheeled out in 1997. Even Herr Rühe has acknowledged that by then his airforce will need to replace some of its existing planes. The need will be no less great in Italy and Spain, although Italy, at a pinch, could probably hang on to the year 2000. That is why Britain and Italy, in particular, are pushing for signature of the production agreement.

A study by the German air force supports them. Under pressure to come up with other options, the Luftwaffe conducted a series of comparisons with alternative aircraft. The results, leaked two weeks ago, showed that if costs were disregarded, America's newest warplane, the F22 Stealth fighter, was the finest weapon a pilot could fly. An off-the-shelf American F16C would give the biggest firepower for a taxpayer's mark but EFA, the Luftwaffe found, offered the most

attractive combination of combat effectiveness and through-life operating costs. The Luftwaffe's endorsement will increase the discomfort of the German government, caught between public hostility to the project and severe pressure from the German defence industry to proceed with what is, from a business point of view, a logical and vital successor to the Tornado project.

EFA represents a leap in aircraft technology. Most notably, the design makes generous use of plastic panels, reinforced with carbon fibre, for the fuselage and wings. EFA thus has far fewer components than a more conventional plane, and is cheaper to build. Other technical advances should also make it more reliable, and easier to maintain.

The costs of development have been shared out between the participating governments in proportion to the number of planes they originally planned to buy. Britain and Germany, which each wanted 250 aircraft, have 33 per cent shares. Italy, with a requirement for 165, has a 21 per cent interest and Spain, which planned to buy 100, has a 13 per cent stake. The total projected production, 765 aircraft, was thought sufficient to provide the economies of scale necessary to provide a very competent plane, at reasonable cost.

Design and development work has been shared out by member governments among their national aerospace industries on a pro-rata basis. Two pan-European consortia have been formed to do the work. Eurofighter is in charge of the plane itself and Eurojet is responsible for the engines. British Aerospace and Deutsche Aerospace are the leading partners in the Eurofighter consortium, which also includes Alenia of Italy and Casa of Spain.

The future of EFA is crucial also for another industrial consortium, the engine makers Eurojet, made up of Rolls-Royce, MTU of Germany, Fiat and ITP of Spain. In addition to those, there are the many supplier companies, such as GEC-Marconi in Britain. With so much of Europe's defence and aircraft industry exposed to this one project, it is little wonder that behind-the-scenes lobbying is so intense.

As in the Airbus commercial aircraft consortium, the co-operating companies have tried to specialise to control costs. EFA's nose is British, its middle German and the tail is a product of Spanish-Italian collaboration. The left wing is Italian, the right one British or Spanish. The engines and electronics will be provided by pan-European consortia.

British Aerospace already has about 2,500 people employed on the project, most of them at its military aircraft factory at Warton, Lancashire. The company estimates that its suppliers employ an equal number on the project. By the time the production phase is at full speed, 5,000 BAE workers will be involved, with up to 15,000 more elsewhere in British industry. A similar build-up across Europe could produce the total tally of 60,000 jobs, except that the number of planes ordered by all the participating countries is sure to be fewer than originally conceived, even if Germany did not pull out.

Today's decision by the German government could put all such jobs at risk. The British defence establishment argues that, even without the Germans, there could be a production run of 450, enough to keep the project viable, albeit at a significantly higher cost per plane. Although the total amount of work would fall, the British share would rise to 44 per cent, protecting British jobs and industrial leadership at the expense of Germany's long-term role in the aerospace business. British Aerospace also argues that the economics of the project could be restored by sales to third countries, where the French Rafale is likely to be the only serious long-term competitor.

If the German decision goes against EFA, however, the project might well collapse. Apart from relying on uncertain future exports, its viability would depend on the attitude of the Spaniards, and indeed the Italians, who might jump on the bandwagon and pull out as well. Both countries face pressure to cut state spending to meet the economic convergence tests laid down in the Maastricht treaty. That might even be convenient for Britain. After all, we could blame the Germans before enjoying the windfall to taxpayers.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Rees swaps shops

DEBORAH Rees, aged 31, rated top analyst for Belgian stocks by both Exel and Greenwich, has resigned from Kleinwort Benson, where she has been for ten years, to join Smith New Court. Rees, who was also head of European equities at KB, will step into a similar role at SNC, as head of European research, but will now also have responsibility for managing the development of its research into emerging markets — principally eastern Europe, Turkey and Portugal. Going with her from KB is Max Elvidge, who becomes a sales director of SNC Europe. According to Mike Robey, SNC's administration director, their arrival heralds a big expansion of the firm's European activities. "These two senior appointments are part of a programme to recruit 12 new research and sales people into Smith New Court Europe this year," he says. Since Rees will report to Nicholas Peas, managing director of SNC Europe, her arrival also means that the European division will now be run by two women with reputations for being equally aggressive. Robey agrees with the description but denies this is a problem. "It's a lot better than having two aggressive men, and we've got plenty of those here," he says with a smile.

Good intent

WITH his Saudi Arabian pavilion the runaway success of Expo '92 in Seville — it is cur-



NO DEMAND — EXCEPT FOR NERVES OF —
"No demand — except for nerves of."

rently attracting more visitors a day than Euro Disney — British designer Rodney Fitch seems to be feeling bouncy again after a tough year re-shaping Fitch-RS, his design group. The Saudi pavilion, which Fitch designed, has been second in popularity only to the Spanish pavilion, drawing 40,000 visitors a day compared with Euro Disney's 30,000. Fitch believes its pulling power is partly due to its "quality of unexpectedness". It shows Saudi Arabia "as it was and as it will become" with a wonderful tent-like roof made of Bedouin carpets alongside a high-tech structure by American designer James Wines. But Fitch suspects that the real reason for its popularity may be that, unlike the British one, it doesn't require visitors to queue. "There's a free flow and people can come and go. At the British pavilion people stand in the sun for half an hour until their party is called." Fitch hopes that the result will be some more Middle East projects. "Saudi Arabia

had never even considered a project like this before and I think it will lead to other things," he says.

Rescued? Not me

IF YOUR share price is 6.5p, your market capitalisation £7 million, and you are paying £3.3 million in advisers' fees to raise £33 million, your shareholders might be justified in feeling nervous. But despite the ominous signs, Nick Jivraj, head of Buckingham International, the hotel group, is adamant his company is not being "rescued" but merely "refinanced" to get an "essential breathing space" with a placing of mind-boggling complexity organized by merchant bank Robert Fleming. The issue involves nine firms of lawyers in three countries — Portugal, Holland and the UK — and took nine months to put together, with £1 million going on mortgage registration fees in Portugal alone. Jivraj admits the price of his "breathing space" has "really hurt" but insists his finances were not always so. In 1986 he sold the London Park Hotel group to Mount Charlotte in a profitable deal put together overnight by Schroders and Robert Fleming — the latter then acting for Mount Charlotte. "It's not true. It's just the circumstances," Jivraj pleads. "I can do deals in 24 hours."

GRAFFITO seen on a New York subway train: "If you laid all the economists on Wall Street end to end they still would not reach a conclusion."

DEBRA ISAAC

Regulators must beware capture by the regulated

From Mr Len Arrowsmith
Sir, The Building Societies Commission has just confirmed the transfer of engagements of Mid-Sussex Building Society to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society.

It found that those Cheltenham and Gloucester investing members voting on the resolution to merge were sufficient to represent the views of those eligible to vote. Only 0.3 per

cent of eligible investors voted, because voting forms were not sent out. The Commission's finding is perverse and, in my view, is just one more example of the commission demonstrating that it has been captured by senior executives in the building society industry.

Those looking for solutions to the problems in the pensions industry should learn from the Building Societies

Lloyd's losses due to too much capacity

From Mr Patrick O'Brien
Sir, The present imbroglio at Lloyd's insurance market is due to too much insurance capacity chasing too few insurance risks. The premiums charged by Lloyd's are too influenced by competition for business, not enough by an assessment of the risk itself from objective criteria. Past experience has been a poor guide to new high-tech risks sought in order to increase the market's size.

By reinsurance and excess of loss policies, risks are spread around the market so that, allied to the three-year settlement system, losses can be spread over several years and several syndicates to minimise their effects.

Insiders, by "caution", run profitable businesses thus in-

creasing the risks for the average punter. Those who have encouraged people with more money than financial sophistication to become names have created the excess capacity which has led to the writing of hugely unprofitable business.

To create the appearance of caution, syndicates for outsiders have had to take reinsurances and excess of loss business from each other. Whilst this has increased commissions charged by the professionals it has led to the present disastrous situation for those who are not insiders.

Caveat emptor
Yours truly,
PATRICK O'BRIEN,
2 Evening Glade,
Golf Links Road,
Farnham, Dorset.

When money in the gas meter counted

From Mr F. P. Ladd
Sir, Mr W D Ogilvie (Letters June 24) complains that his electricity and gas companies would lessen his consumer liquidity if he were to pay their accounts by direct debiting within 14 days. As his payments would be for supplies provided up to 15 weeks earlier, why should he expect

to have the use for even longer of money already owing to his suppliers? There was a time when no money in the gas meter meant no gas and consumer liquidity meant living on tick.
Yours faithfully,
F. P. LADD,
61 Mossley Road,
Whyteleafe, Surrey.

Forecasting figures for Lloyd's

From the co-editor of Chatset Limited
Sir, Mr Archard in his response to Mr Beynon's letter about the Chatset forecast would now seem to agree that our forecasts for 1989 and 1990 were on the right lines.

We stick to our forecast for the 1991 result, which in our case is a bottom line figure for Names, including open years and increases in reserves for old year problems. For purposes of his own Mr Archard ignores these items.

If Mr Archard adds £500 million for 1988, £2,000 million for 1989, £1,000 million for 1990 and £750 million for 1991, he will come to something over £4 billion. Even we,

the so called merchants of doom, do not foresee anything worse than this by 1994 when the 1991 account closes. Where Mr Archard gets his £6 billion figure from is a mystery to us.

Surely Names are entitled to a forecast of their result prior to the closing of the three year account and if Lloyd's cannot provide these, then we will continue to do so. The salutary fact is that we have yet to overstate a loss, or understate a profit when making a forecast for the overall Lloyd's result in any one year.
Yours faithfully,
A. C. L. STURGE,
Chatset Limited,
PO Box No 661, SW1.

Empty promises to an overseas investor

From R. Burt
Sir, I wrote to six banks, asking whether they took overseas deposits, and if they did, what would be the interest rates for a quarter of a million Australian dollars and added that bank references would be supplied. I received one reply, three weeks later, in an un-

stamped envelope which said please find enclosed the interest rates for various currencies. There was nothing enclosed.
Yours sincerely,
R. BURT,
P.O. Box 232,
Wynnum, Brisbane,
Queensland,
Australia.

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UPS parcels firm buys Carryfast

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

UNITED Parcel Service (UPS) of America has bought Britain's biggest privately owned parcel distributor, completing its European network and raising its worldwide workforce by 900 to 257,000.

The purchase of Carryfast will enable UPS to offer a domestic parcel service in the United Kingdom for the first time. It will also give the Carryfast service access to an international network.

At the same time, the four managers who mounted a management buyout of Carryfast from Unilever nine years ago will become multi-millionaires. Maryn Oldroyd, Carryfast's managing director, declined to reveal the sale price. But he said he and his

colleagues had agreed to remain at the company for at least a year to smooth its integration with UPS.

Peter Quantrell, UK managing director for UPS, said some workers were likely to be asked to move as the two distribution networks were put together, but he hoped continuing growth in the parcels market would enable him to avoid redundancies.

Carryfast, based at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, employs 900 people at 17 parcel centres, collecting and delivering eight million parcels a year in a fleet of 350 vehicles. Pre-tax profits in 1991 topped £3 million on £31.2 million sales.

UPS has 1,300 UK employees at 30 offices, operating a fleet of 218 vehicles to feed parcels into and from its international service.

The Carryfast deal is the latest stage in a \$1 billion acquisition spree across Europe since 1987, involving 16 companies. It brings total UPS European employees to almost 21,000.

The merger is a sign of intensifying competition in parcels distribution, particularly in Britain, where the recession has sharply slowed the hitherto rapid growth of the express parcels market.

But it also highlights the diversity of strategy between UPS and Federal Express and DHL, the two other American members of the "big four" carriers worldwide.

DHL sold Elan, its UK domestic parcels business, to a management buyout last year. Federal Express, in turn, sold its UK domestic parcels business to Securicor Omega Express. The deal lifted Securicor to second place in the UK express parcels business. Securicor's 12 per cent leaves it trailing the Post Office's ParcelForce, the leading operator, which claims a 30 per cent share. But it is only a couple of points ahead of TNT Express, part of the Australian TNT Group.



A matter of degree: Britain's top woman surveyor went into the profession because she read about it on the back of a Quaker Oats packet (Rodney Hobson writes). Mary Dent, 49, executive director of planning and conservation with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, is the first woman to be elected

president of one of the divisions of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. She takes over the presidency of the planning and development division on July 6. Miss Dent is an external lecturer for the land management degree at Reading University.

She admits she entered the profession

by accident. "I was taking A levels but could not continue with any of my chosen subjects at university because I did not have Latin. One morning I read on the back of a Quaker Oats packet 'Why not let your daughter become a surveyor?' I just wanted to go to university and I thought well, it's a degree."

Peugeot snaps hard at Rover's heels

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE French paid a single dollar eight years ago for the Chrysler car business, which had collapsed under the weight of acrimonious union disputes and inefficiency.

Peugeot was a minor player in Britain with a share of new car sales of just 1.9 per cent. The French inherited the Chrysler range, worth another 2 per cent in sales, and a gloomy, old factory on the outskirts of Coventry.

It was a deal that seemed unlikely to succeed. But the PSA group is today threatening to become the new third

force in the British new car market. The group, which includes Peugeot and Citroën, is racing against the trend of falling sales into a position as the strongest competitor for the home manufacturers.

Peugeot and Citroën cars have taken an 11.79 per cent share of the British new car market in the first five months of this year. Rover, traditionally the largest maker after Ford and Vauxhall, managed 12.65 per cent but was overtaken in two separate months by the French conglomerate.

When figures for June are announced next week, there is every reason to believe PSA will be maintaining the pressure on Rover.

By next year, there will also be a new car coming out of the plant at Ryton, Coventry, offering potential for a doubling of annual capacity to about 200,000 cars — putting the factory on the same scale of output as the Japanese transplants opening in the UK.

Unlike the arrival of the Japanese, PSA's success and the growth of Ryton has gone largely unnoticed, an irony not lost on Jacques Calvet, PSA's chairman and the biggest European critic of the entry of Honda, Toyota and Nissan into Britain.

Like a political toothache, he has nagged away at the European establishment, warning of the dangers of allowing unrestricted access to the Japanese unless European car makers were given time to get their houses in order.

The message might have become simply irritating had M. Calvet not been among the leaders in getting his company on to a strong footing to meet the challenge.

Most of the colony's developers are building a land bank in southern China to capitalise on the rising property prices. Last week, Li Ka-shing, the Hutchison Whampoa chief, and Robert Kuok, owner of the Shangri-La hotel chain, disclosed plans to develop a prime property in central Peking into a commercial centre.

A Kumagai spokesman said that private developers would be responsible for building the infrastructure at Yangpu, and

Siemens links with Chinese firms in power plant deal

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN HONG KONG

SIEMENS, the German electrical engineering giant, has teamed up with Chinese and Japanese companies to invest in a new Hong Kong-style economic zone on Hainan Island in China.

Siemens, with Kumagai Gumi (Hong Kong) and Maeda Corporation of Japan, the construction companies, Ringo Trading, a subsidiary of Peking's overseas investment arm, the China International Trust and Investment Corp (Citic), said they would form a joint venture to develop a 1,300 megawatt power plant at the island's Yangpu development zone.

The Yangpu project is billed as the largest foreign investment in China. The developers say they plan to invest at least HK\$180 billion (£12.3 billion) in the development zone over the next 15 years.

Kumagai Gumi (HK), a Hong Kong-listed affiliate of Japan's Kumagai construction group, has won approval from the Chinese government to lease an area of 30 sq km for 70 years to develop industries and an infrastructure for up to half a million residents and temporary workers.

The construction of the power station will be the first major project at Yangpu, a deep water port at the northwest tip of Hainan, which is tropical.

There has been a surge in investment in China's land, properties and infrastructure projects by Hong Kong and overseas companies since early this year, when Peking stepped up its capitalist-style economic reforms with land sales and the opening of stock markets.

Most of the colony's developers are building a land bank in southern China to capitalise on the rising property prices. Last week, Li Ka-shing, the Hutchison Whampoa chief, and Robert Kuok, owner of the Shangri-La hotel chain, disclosed plans to develop a prime property in central Peking into a commercial centre.

A Kumagai spokesman said that private developers would be responsible for building the infrastructure at Yangpu, and

that land would be sold to mortgaged to investors without government interference. CP Yu, managing director of Kumagai Gumi (HK), and the mastermind behind the project, said: "Investors will be dealing with a private company, not a government bureaucracy."

Siemens will supply, install and operate a combined-cycle oil-fired gas turbine plant at Yangpu. The company is taking a 20 per cent stake with Kumagai (30 per cent), Maeda (20 per cent) and Ringo Trading (30 per cent).

Alphameric reduces its losses

By MICHAEL TATE

ALPHAMERIC, the troubled computer keyboard group, reduced its losses in the year to end-March and is confident of a return to profitability during the current year. The pre-tax loss was trimmed from £2.91 million to £2.08 million and the loss per share more than halved, from 58.9p to 28.8p.

Alan Benjamin, chairman, who persuaded investors to support a £4.1 million survival package in February, said that the group was now ready to show a steadily improving performance.

He said: "We have several notable new orders for our custom-designed intelligent keyboards and we are now poised to bring to the market our new range of electronic point of sale products." Prospects for Alphameric Communications were encouraging. "We are well placed to benefit from the expected economic recovery," he added.

The financial reconstruction has enabled the company to reduce borrowings substantially and leave sufficient working capital to take its business strategy forward. The company has stepped up its activity in continental Europe.

Well prepared?

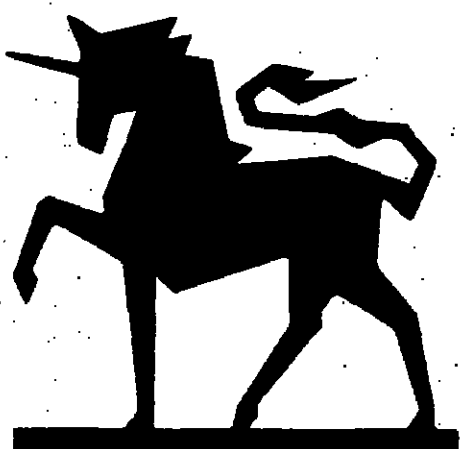
INTERNATIONAL SHARE OFFER.

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As early applications for shares in this international pharmaceutical group are more likely to be treated favourably, now is the time to get well informed.

Speak to your broker direct or call The Share Information Line (open 7 days a week 8am to 10pm) on 081-944 1242 to receive a Prospectus and Application Form.

You'd do well to make contact today.



Wellcome

SHARE
OFFER

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power plant dea

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Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall gain and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Share
1	Holmes & Co	Electrical	100
2	Baggeley Bk	Building, Rds	100
3	Oliver (C)	Drugs, Sps	100
4	Severn Treat	Water	100
5	Lloyds	Bank, Dic	100
6	Berkley Gp	Building, Rds	100
7	TSS	Bank, Dic	100
8	Miles	Electrical	100
9	Cent Vella	Drugs, Sps	100
10	App Holo	Electrical	100
11	Salvage (C)	Food	100
12	Smith (Jef)	Paper, Print	100
13	Indochine	Industrial	100
14	ICI (C) Pte	Chemical, Plastics	100
15	Stiebel	Industrial	100
16	Brown & Tawse	Industrial	100
17	Microfilm Map	Electrical	100
18	Diems Gp	Drugs, Sps	100
19	Bluebird Toys	Industrial	100
20	Humbros	Bank, Dic	100
21	Mark Spencer	Drugs, Sps	100
22	Johnson	Industrial	100
23	Whitbread A	Breweries	100
24	Unilever Ind	Transport	100
25	Microfilm	Electrical	100
26	Cranwick	Food	100
27	Potomac Sund	Newspaper, Pub	100
28	Kingfisher	Drugs, Sps	100
29	Medway	Industrial	100
30	Meusey Docks	Transport	100
31	Park Foods	Food	100
32	Chorda	Chemical, Plastics	100
33	Ch Western Res	Oil, Gas	100
34	Pisons	Industrial	100
35	Thames Water	Water	100
36	LASMO	Oil, Gas	100
37	Sherriff Hidge	Building, Rds	100
38	Solomon Slavo	Industrial	100
39	Waters Water	Water	100
40	Quadrant	Breweries	100
41	Northminster	Water	100
42	Wider	Industrial	100
43	Yorkshire W	Water	100
44	Smith-Roe	Building, Rds	100

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Week

The Portfolio Platinum prize was shared yesterday by Mr D Rogers, of Arundel, Mrs H Stickleland, of New Milton, and Mr E Webb, of Bath. Each receive £66.66.

1992 High Low Company Price Price Net Yld P/E

1992 High	1992 Low	Company	Price	Price	Net Yld	P/E
317	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
318	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
319	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
320	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
321	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
322	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
323	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
324	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
325	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
326	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
327	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
328	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
329	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
330	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
331	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
332	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
333	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
334	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
335	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
336	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
337	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
338	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
339	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
340	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
341	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
342	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
343	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
344	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
345	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
346	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
347	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
348	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
349	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
350	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
351	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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365	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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372	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
373	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
374	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
375	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
376	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
377	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
378	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
379	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
380	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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383	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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386	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
387	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
388	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
389	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
390	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
391	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
392	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
393	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
394	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
395	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
396	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
397	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
398	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
399	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
400	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1992 High	1992 Low	Company	Price	Price	Net Yld	P/E
317	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
318	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
319	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
320	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
321	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
322	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
323	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
324	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
325	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
326	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
327	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
328	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
329	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
330	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
331	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
332	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
333	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
334	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
335	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
336	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
337	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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343	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
344	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
345	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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365	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
366	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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369	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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372	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
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396	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
397	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
398	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
399	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5
400	25	Abber NO	270	25	3.5	8.5

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS									
317	62	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	99	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
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152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270	25	4.1
152	102	Abber NO	270						

071-481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

071-481 9313
071-782 7828

ZMB - PHASE TWO

Zarak Macrae Brenner is less than a year old and has already established a significant presence in the highly specialist legal recruitment market.

We are committed to a controlled expansion programme which will enable us to satisfy the demands of our already extensive Client base and provide genuine career opportunities for other lawyers who can see their long term future outside the profession.

We seek a bright personable and commercially aware young lawyer who can display the requisite dynamism and panache to make a major contribution to our team.

You will immediately enjoy an equitable salary and bonus, reflecting both personal and corporate performance, with an unusually clear commitment to future equity participation.

To find out more please contact Jonathan Macrae or Jonathan Brenner on 071-377 0510 (or at home on 081-672 8340 or 081-332 0733 respectively) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY.

ZARAK
MACRAE
BRENNER

ZMB

LONDON & HONG KONG

EEC PARTNER To £150,000
City firm which has sustained growth through the recession seeks additional lawyer at partner level for thriving EEC/competition team. No following required but an excellent track record and obvious client development skills essential.

PROPERTY LIT To £45,000
60 partner City firm with specialist property litigation team acting for top institutional and developer clients seeks assistant with 2-4 years' ppe in this sphere. Good medium term prospects.

CORPORATE To £46,500
Leading City firm continues to recruit top flight 2-4 year qualified corporate finance solicitors with strong academic backgrounds and training in large City environment. Exposure to wide range of work assured.

CONSTRUCTION £Competitive
Extremely successful firm with Leeds & London operation seeks litigator, for Leeds office, with 2-4 years' experience of construction and commercial litigation. Excellent working environment and career prospects.

For further information in complete confidence please contact Jonathan Brenner or Jonathan Macrae (both solicitors) on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 071-247 5174.

PRIVATE CLIENT £Partner
Dynamic Holborn firm with excellent management and busy private client practice seeks to expand through acquisition of partner/consultant seeking to integrate client base into a larger firm committed to this field.

HONG KONG £35,000 ++
Leading City litigation practice with thriving Hong Kong office seeks 0-2 year qualified assistant with minimum 2.1. City training with insurance/marine seat during Articles essential. Immediate posting.

EMPLOYMENT To £41,000
Well regarded Holborn firm with strong contentious employment group seeks junior non-contentious employment specialist for key role in developing this aspect of the firm's employment practice.

CORPORATE To £65,000
Profitable medium sized Inns firm with high quality plc and international client base seeks City trained corporate lawyer 4-7 years qualified for partner designate position.

ZARAK
MACRAE
BRENNER

ZMB

BANKING PARTNER
NORTH WEST

A leading player in the commercial arena, our Client operates from its firmly established base in the North West enjoying the benefit of strong international connections.

Acting for both financiers and borrowers, frequently in concert with the firm's pre-eminent corporate team, the banking department's expertise encompasses project and asset financing and leasing, facility and security documentation, finance for acquisitions, factoring and general regulatory matters.

It now seeks a senior banking lawyer to capitalise on its existing client base and contacts and drive forward the expansion of the department.

A team leader with gravitas, incisive technical ability and proven practice development skills seeking a new challenge in an entrepreneurial environment will claim this exceptional opportunity.

Quality of work and quality of life combine with an outstanding partnership package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Sallie Hawkins or June Mesrié (both solicitors) on 071-405 6062 (081-340 7078 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 9 Brownlow Street, London WC1V 6JD. Confidential fax 071-831 6394. Initial discussions can be held on a no names basis.

QD
QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM • HONG KONG • NEW ZEALAND • AUSTRALIA • USA

Hi-Tech - High Profile
Legal Adviser

Our client is a major British PLC and enjoys a significant international reputation as a leader in its field. Its Law Department continues to expand, reflecting the growth and future plans of the Company.

A requirement currently exists for an experienced commercial lawyer to join one of the most competitive business divisions of our client. Working closely with the Senior Legal Adviser of this division, the successful candidate will oversee and assess the contractual and regulatory risks and obligations of the division and otherwise assist and support the Senior Legal Adviser in providing legal services to the division and the Group.

It is envisaged that the successful candidate will have approximately five to seven years relevant commercial experience ideally, although not necessarily, gained in a hi-tech environment. It is essential that candidates display maturity, flexibility and strong team working skills. Although London based, international travel is a function of the role and therefore international experience will prove attractive to our client.

A superb opportunity in an exciting and challenging environment, salary will be commensurate with experience.

For further details, applicants should telephone Mary Canning on 071 831 2000 or write to her enclosing their curriculum vitae (including details of current salary and benefits), at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Fax: 071 831 6662.

MP

Michael Page Legal

Specialists in Legal Recruitment
London Bristol Birmingham
Nottingham Manchester Leeds & WorldwideRecruitment
Consultant

£Excellent + bonus + car + benefits

Since its foundation in 1987 Lipson Lloyd-Jones has established a reputation as the legal recruitment consultancy with the highest professional standards both in terms of client and candidate care.

We have substantially increased our level of business despite the recession, thus creating an urgent need for a further Consultant to join our busy team of professionals based in the heart of the City.

We are seeking a young Lawyer either already experienced in legal recruitment or with 1-4PQE gained within the legal profession to become a member of our dynamic team and contribute to our continuing expansion.

You will be well presented and articulate, confident when dealing with people at all levels, positive and thorough. To succeed you will need both a sense of humour and the ability to handle pressure within this fast moving and well rewarded environment.

To discuss this exceptional opportunity contact Simon Lipson in complete confidence.

LIPSON
LLOYD-JONES127 CHEAPSIDE
LONDON EC2V 6BT071-600 1690
FAX: 071-600 1972

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION
THE INNS OF COURT SCHOOL OF LAWSUPERVISOR OF PRACTITIONER
INSTRUCTORS AT PRINCIPAL
LECTURER LEVEL

The Inns of Court School of Law trains all would-be barristers intending to practise in England and Wales. Its skills-based Vocational Course is now in its third year and is subject to continual development. An integral part of the course is the close involvement of practising barristers.

We are looking for a barrister with a sound academic background and experience of Practice to undertake the supervision of Practitioner instructors on the Vocational Course in addition to teaching. The post will involve the recruitment, selection, training and monitoring of practitioners carrying out teaching and assessment on the course. If you have administrative ability and an interest in teaching, this appointment at Principal lecturer level will provide you with a challenging and rewarding experience.

In exchange for your commitment we offer generous holidays, an excellent contributory pension scheme and an attractive salary in the range £31560 - £38980.

If you are interested in this appointment, contact

John Taylor on: 071-484-5787
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LAW TIMES

● LAW REPORT 28
● TOBACCO RULING 29

Courts on the fringe

Courts outside
the mainstream
still pack
a hefty
punch, reports
Jonathan Sale

When the Rev Tom Tyler lost his appeal against dismissal for adultery last month, the decision was handed down not by a civil court but by the Court of Arches, made up of three judges and two jurors. The court that ended Mr Tyler's career as a vicar was a Church of England consistory court.

There are several such traditional systems of justice that can still pack a punch even though they have lost many of their powers and appearing before them can be voluntary. Parties in the Beth Din Jewish court can choose litigation there or go before a civil court.

The rural court-leets, survivors of the manorial bodies that ran the village ducking stool and pillory, meet now for members to convict one another of cultivating untidy sunrises. The Board of Green Cloth, presided over by the Master of the Queen's Household, has licensing powers over "the liberty of the verge of the palace" — three pubs, the Royal College of Pathologists and a few other premises.

The Church of England has lost its medieval powers over lay people and its consistory courts no longer deal with adulterers and sabbath-breakers. A diocesan court that sat last year in St Peter's, Morden, Surrey, was engaged on a typical case of proposed alterations to the church.

This appeared to be an internal church matter. When a photograph of the deliberations was published, however, the might of the law descended on photographer and newspaper. There was a prima facie case that a contempt of court had been committed under Section 41 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925, just as if the offending snap had been taken in a civil or criminal court.

The paper was summoned to a later session of the consistory court. Emphasising the severity of the case, the court sat in the Old Bailey. Defence counsel apologised profusely for the accidental breach of the law. The "chancellor" of the court, a practising barrister, could have imposed a jail sentence or a £400 fine. He wrote to accept the apology but added ominously that the police had been alerted. There the matter rests.

The church court of a diocese generally confines itself to alterations to buildings, in which case the chancellor sits alone, and to clerical misbehaviour, in which case he has a jury of four assessors, two clerical, two lay. Legal aid is not available but the church has funds for clergy appearing in court. Appeals go to the provincial courts such as the Court of Arches. Charges involving "doctrine, ritual or ceremonial" are heard before the clerical judges who make up the Court of Ecclesiastical Causes Reserved.

In the legal system of the Catholic Church, there is no question of contempt of court, or a summons to the, Qld. Bailey. Not being "established", it is independent of lay law. "The whole system is very different from that of the civil courts," says Dr Michael Ashdowne, the administrator of the Metropolitan Tribunal of Westminster. He is a Catholic with a theology degree and is a layman in charge of the day-to-day running of the court. Every diocese has its ecclesiastical tribunal, dealing almost entirely with marriage annulments.

The panel of judges generally does not see the parties, consulting written evidence



Convicted and sacked: the Rev Tom Tyler with his wife after being found guilty of adultery by a church court

instead. This is gathered for them by the "instructing judge", who conducts separate interviews with both parties and asks questions provided by the "defender of the bond", rather than cross-examining. Westminster receives 350-400 enquiries a year from those wishing to dissolve their marriages. About half fall at the first hurdle. "People decide not to go through with it, or we explain there would not appear to be grounds," Dr Ashdowne says. Of the remaining 150-200, he estimates a quarter are unsuccessful but an appeal is possible.

Oddly enough, the three-quarters of cases that are successful automatically go to an appeal tribunal, consisting of one of the other diocesan tribunals. There is no legal aid but if necessary the fees — £200 is typical — can be reduced.

"A church tribunal cannot be in a position in which it can be accused of having broken up a marriage," says Dr

Ashdowne, explaining why a marriage must first have been dissolved by a civil court. For a Catholic annulment, judges must be sure that one of the partners had entered into the marriage without fully consenting to what the church understands by marriage.

A court martial also does without a conventional jury. Instead, the verdicts are decided by a permanent president, who is familiar with the legal process, and a couple of officers, who are not. Advising them is a judge-advocate, a legally qualified official. Army funds pay for the defence, and legal aid funds appeals.

There are lower and higher courts. A district court resembles a magistrates' bench. It can impose jail sentences of up to two years, and only "other ranks" appear before it. An officer, and any rank accused of more serious offences, will go before the more powerful "general court", which, despite its name, cannot try generals, an eventuality requiring the military equivalent of the House of Lords. Servicemen receiving a long

sentence are transferred to a civilian prison. This often places them, like Gunner Vic Williams, who deserted to oppose the Gulf war, in the odd position of being locked in a civilian prison for "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline", an offence that does not exist in civilian law.

In relation to women too. Which all makes our own non-statutory Opportunity 2000 look rather dull.

Way ahead
LEGAL work likely to become more important in two years' time includes aviation, product liability, human rights, sports and trade regulation, according to a new survey, *Lawyers on Lawyers in Europe 1992*. Published by Euromoney Publications, the survey is described as holding up a mirror to the European legal profession. It gives details of the big commercial law firms in 17 European jurisdictions, covering expansion plans, staffing levels, charging structures and profitability of different areas of work.

Pension plus
IS THE Law Society actively promoting the practice of cherry picking and lateral movement of lawyers between firms through its backing of a new pension plan? The plan, launched this month by SSP Personal Pensions, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Solicitors' Staff Pension Fund, "offers a highly competitive alternative in terms of service, investment management and transparent charging structure", according to Charles Woodhouse, the fund chairman. It also offers all solicitors from trainees to equity partners a pension they can take when they move. As the saying goes, "have portable pension, will travel". The recruitment consultants must be delighted.

He's here
LEST any lawyers should be having difficulty finding him, Sir Gordon Borrie's new chambers at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square are, of course, in Gray's Inn, not the Temple (Law Times June 16).

SCRIVENOR

How a judge can rise above personal bias

THE cry of disappointed litigants throughout the world is that "the judge was biased". But what is a fair hearing? The difficulties of defining this concept have been highlighted in a recent judgment of the New South Wales Court of Appeal.

Mr Justice Cole had made some preliminary rulings against the defendants in a complex piece of civil litigation. The defendants argued that he should not hear the main action because there was "a risk of the appearance of bias by reason of prejudgment". The appeal court held, by a majority of three to two, that Mr Justice Cole should disqualify himself.

The president, Mr Justice Kirby, thought there was a possibility that a reasonable person might entertain a reasonable apprehension that the judge might not be impartial. A stringent test was necessary to maintain public confidence.

The two other judges in the majority reluctantly agreed that earlier rulings by the High Court of Australia, the country's supreme judicial tribunal, had required a strict test. Those two judges suggested that the High Court should reconsider the issues and adopt criteria requiring the complainant to show that there was a real and substantial likelihood that the judge would not be impartial, a test that the defendants could not meet on the facts of this case.

The two dissenting judges saw no reason to doubt that Mr Justice Cole would decide the case on the evidence. They emphasised the waste of judicial resources if another judge had to try the complex litigation.

In earlier times, English law was unsympathetic to allegations of bias. In 1878, Mr Justice Mellor said he knew "no reason for saying that the expression of a man's opinion on any subject should render him unfit to adjudicate upon it".

In 1902, the Divisional Court rejected an application to quash a conviction by magistrates for driving a car at more than 12mph. The grounds for the application were that the magistrates' chairman had displayed bias by saying "that it would be a good thing if the motor-car industry were destroyed". Mr Justice Wills said: "A magistrate is at liberty to entertain strong views on a subject, though it were better if he kept his views to himself".

More recently, the judiciary has become more willing to accede to applications that judges should excuse themselves from cases. One of the most impressive feats of advocacy

by Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, whose recent knighthood gives pleasure to all members of the legal profession, was to persuade Lord Denning not to hear a case involving the Scientist's in 1978 because his clients believed the judicial record of the Master of the Rolls made it unlikely that he would look favourably on them.

English law is far from consistent on the test of bias. In public law, the test is that stated by the Divisional Court in 1982: would a reasonable and fair-minded person sitting in court and knowing all the relevant facts have a reasonable suspicion that a fair trial was not possible? So, earlier this year, the Divisional Court quashed convictions because, at the end of the first day of a two-day trial, the chairman of the bench had prepared in typewritten a statement for use when passing sentence in the event of a conviction. The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, takes a more robust approach. Last month it dismissed an appeal by a defendant convicted of conspiring with his brother to commit robberies. The ground of appeal was that the brother was the next-door neighbour of a juror. The court held that the appearance of bias did not suffice. The defendant could not show there was a real danger that he had been denied a fair trial.

The principled answer to the New South Wales case is that the law should be concerned only with a real danger of an impediment to a fair trial. Judges should not decline to sit on cases, especially where they will cause expense and delay, because observers may, without justification, think the judge has prejudged the issues.

These points were made in 1943 by Judge Jerome Frank when deciding a similar point on behalf of the United States Court of Appeals. If "bias" and "partiality" be defined to mean preconceptions in the mind of the judge, "then no one has ever had a fair trial and no one ever will".

In an extreme case in 1986, the Illinois Supreme Court dismissed an appeal by a murderer sentenced to death. The court rejected his complaint that the judge could not have been impartial because, at a pre-trial hearing, he was "struck by the defendant on the head with his fist". The court concluded: "A trial judge is required to ignore provocations and pressures." There was no evidence that his conduct had been affected by the defendant's behaviour.

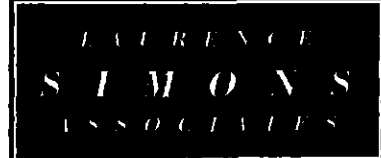
● The author is a practising barrister and a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



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The right to light up

LAWYERS in the UK are already rushing to assemble potential cases on the strength of last week's American landmark court ruling against the tobacco industry. The irony is that the ruling sits alongside legal action in some states to curb the excesses of the anti-smoking lobby.

In the UK, the anti-smoking lobby is only now managing to establish the respectability of no-smoking policies in the workplace. In the United States, however, the anti-smoking zeal has arguably helped to fuel a thriving smokers' rights group. Several states have had to take legal action to curb the activities of employers eager to control employees' smoking habits. In one infamous case in Indiana a company dismissed a woman when nicotine traces were found in a urine sample she supplied.

Nearly half the American states now have "smokers' rights laws" to protect workers from discrimination based on smoking outside the workplace. Connecticut, for example, has a law prohibiting employers from refusing to employ smokers or imposing less favourable terms and conditions on them, such as higher insurance premiums.

American ruling, page 29

'End secrecy'
LORD Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, is being urged to end the "secretive" hearings of the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal after an unprecedented vote at the tribunal's annual meeting disclosed that its members were equally split on opening to the public. The secrecy of the hearings is being taken up

INNS AND OUTS

by the Guild of British Newspaper Editors on the strength of the vote. The present rules, stating that proceedings must be in private unless a public hearing is requested through a special, rarely used procedure are being considered by the Lord Chancellor's Department. David Newell, the guild secretary, says: "These private hearings are out of context with recent government pronouncements."

Closed hearings are wrong in principle in a democracy, he says, and "neither inspire public confidence in the profession nor encourage solicitors to maintain professional standards". By contrast, he points to the General Medical Council, with its long-standing policy of holding disciplinary hearings in public, even in cases involving sexual allegations against doctors.

Market mission
TEN young Polish lawyers are in London with law firms and chambers on placements as part of the British Polish Legal Association's programme to help lawyers in Poland to develop a free market economy and democratic system.

Prison call
ONE of the more colourful members of the bench, Eric Crowther, a stipendiary magistrate for 21 years and now a crown court recorder, has called for automatic jail terms for first-time offenders to stop "an avalanche towards anarchy". In a new book, *Look What's on the Bench*, he gives a warning against breeding a generation of criminals if the courts do not take action on young offenders. He believes the soft approach has failed and says the Criminal Justice

Act 1991 will send the crime rate higher as courts come under pressure to resist custody. Mr Crowther wants a three-tier system of sentences: three days, three months or three years, depending on whether the offence is a first, second or third. Such a deterrent should, he says, result in fewer people in jail.

Getting equal
WHILE the Equal Opportunities Commission's latest annual report tells of a sharp rise in sex discrimination complaints brought by women in the UK, lawyers in the United States may soon be grappling with the recommendations of the "Glass Ceiling Commission" established by the 1991 Civil Rights Act. The commission was set up to make recommendations for eliminating "artificial barriers to the advancement of women



and minorities" and increasing opportunities for women and minorities in the workplace. The Act also establishes a National Award for Diversity and Excellence in American Executive Management. Winners will receive a medal and be entitled to advertise receipt of the award provided they promise to help other businesses to improve their perfor-

Disclosed papers in foreign courts

Bank of Crete SA v Koskotas and Others

Before Mr Justice Millett
Judgment June 18

Where documents and information had been obtained in exercise of the court's coercive powers, and the party obtaining such documents and information was compellable under a foreign jurisdiction to produce such documents or information, there was no reason why the English court should prevent that party from doing so.

Mr Justice Millett so held in giving judgment in open court after a hearing in camera on an application by the Bank of Crete in proceedings against its former chief executive and others.

Mr Ian Geering, QC and Miss Caroline Lewis for the Bank of Crete; the defendants did not appear and were not represented.

MR JUSTICE MILLETT said that the application was in an action relating to the alleged misappropriation of approximately US \$200,000,000 from the Bank of Crete by its former chief executive, George Koskotas and others, by creating false documents and computer entries and removing other documents or having them removed.

Investigation by the bank was rendered more onerous because the bank's documents could not be taken at face value. The investigators had to rely on evidence from other banks, and to assist the investigation into the alleged fraud and recovery of money, the court had made orders against certain English banks for the

supply of documents and information.

On October 5, 1989, Mr Justice Morritt had made such an order for discovery in favour of the Bank of Crete, in respect of bank accounts owned or controlled by Mr Koskotas and his brother, for use in an action in the UK.

On July 24, 1990 his Lordship had extended Mr Justice Morritt's order, to permit use of the documents and information in criminal proceedings within or without the court's jurisdiction against any person relating to matters disclosed pursuant to the court's orders.

The head of the investigation in Crete was now under an obligation to complete and file an audit report on behalf of the provisional commissioner and to do so would need to use the documents and information to show how the alleged misappropriation was carried out, how the money was transferred to England, to identify the accounts into which it was paid, and to support his conclusion that the money so transferred belonged to the Bank of Crete.

Documents would need to be exhibited; reference thereto or extracts would not suffice. While the main purpose of the audit report would be for use in civil proceedings against Mr Koskotas and his brother, use might also be necessary in criminal proceedings against alleged accomplices.

The report was vitally needed to support the claim that Mr Koskotas had "laundered" the money in England, and then transferred it back to Greece and into his own and his wife's ac-

counts. The provisional commissioner was under a duty to provide copies of the audit report both to the governor of the Bank of Crete and to the examining magistrate, who had already started criminal proceedings against Mr Koskotas, who had been extradited from the USA for trial in Greece.

Mr Justice Ferris had recently further extended the court's previous orders in order to prevent an innocent party from being wrongly convicted on false evidence given by Mr Koskotas. The court was now being asked to make a further extension, in the knowledge that information supplied might be used for the purpose of commencing further criminal proceedings in Greece.

There was no doubt that the court had jurisdiction to vary its previous orders, but there was a dearth of authority on the subject.

His Lordship referred to *Soy Corporation v Anand* [1981] FSR 398, *Crete Homes plc v Marks* [1987] AC 829, 853, *General v Observer Ltd* [1990] 1 AC 109, 281 and *Marex v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* [1992] 2 WLR 501.

He said that the purpose for which the documents were obtained was the recovery of the bank's misappropriated funds. Save in exceptional circumstances it would not be right to authorise the bank voluntarily to make use of them for any other purpose. Special circumstances undoubtedly arose which led Mr Justice Ferris to extend the order so as to prevent a miscarriage of justice.

By providing material to the bank in the exercise of the court's

coercive powers the court had no wish to put the bank into an impossible position in which it had to elect between infringing its undertakings to the English court or finding itself in breach of its duty under Greek law.

The bank was now under an obligation to use the material for the preparation of an audit report and that report should be in a proper and not a misleading form. Precisely how that obligation was to be performed was for the bank to decide, but the English court ought not to place any obstacle in its way in the proper execution of its duty under Greek law. It would be a matter for Greek law whether the audit report should be disclosed to the examining magistrate. If under Greek law the examining magistrate could compel disclosure, then so be it.

His Lordship saw no reason why the English court should be particularly tender or astute to prevent a party who had obtained material in this country by the court's coercive powers from producing documents in a foreign jurisdiction whenever compellable to do so.

Accordingly, his Lordship proposed to add a proviso to the existing orders that nothing should prevent the plaintiff bank from using the material for producing the audit report, or from supplying such report to any person to whom it was under a duty in any jurisdiction to supply such information or from informing any such person that the audit report had been prepared.

Solicitors: Dennon Hall Burgin & Warrens.

Power to destroy dog removed

Regina v Walton Street Justices, Ex parte Crothers

Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice French
Judgment June 17

"Prosecution for an offence" within the meaning of section 5(4) of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 included a prosecution which had been commenced but discontinued. Accordingly, justices had no jurisdiction to order the destruction of a dog under section 5(4) of the Act when a prosecution was discontinued.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in granting an application brought by Samuel Crothers for judicial review of the decision of Walton Street Justices on March 6, 1992 ordering destruction of dog made in purported reliance on powers in section 5(4) of the 1991 Act.

Section 5 of the 1991 Act provides: "(4) Where a dog is seized ... and it appears to a justice of the peace ... that no person has been or is to be prosecuted for an offence under this Act ... in respect of that dog ... he may order the destruction of the dog ..."

Mr John Lyons for Mr Crothers. Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning for the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that in 1991 the applicant purchased a Staffordshire bull terrier as a pet. In 1991 a neighbour of the applicant informed the police that the applicant was keeping a pit bull terrier. As a result the police obtained a search warrant and the dog was seized.

The applicant was charged with three offences under the 1991 Act. He pleaded not guilty and the matter was set down for trial.

The prosecution then gave the applicant notice under section 23(3) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 that they intended to discontinue the prosecution.

The proceedings were discontinued but the dog remained in the custody of the police. On March 6 the justices heard an application by the police under section 5(4) of the 1991 Act, whereupon the justices decided that section 5(1)(a)(i) of the 1991 Act applied and ordered destruction of the dog.

Mr Lyons submitted that the condition precedent to the justices having jurisdiction to order destruction of the dog under

section 5(4) was not satisfied because the applicant had been prosecuted, albeit that it had been discontinued.

As a matter of ordinary language, his Lordship found it impossible to escape the conclusion that a person who had been summoned but against whom proceedings had been discontinued, had nonetheless been prosecuted. Mr Carter-Manning argued that the words in their ordinary meaning did not have that consequence.

Mr Carter-Manning urged their Lordships to insert words so that the only prosecution which was material was one which resulted in a conviction. It was not for the court to insert words into an Act of Parliament. On that ground alone

the decision was flawed for want of jurisdiction.

Mr Lyons also argued that the decision was flawed since the applicant was not given an opportunity to be heard. The subsection conferred on the justices a power which Parliament must have intended to be exercised judicially and in accordance with the rules of natural justice.

In any case concerning the destruction of property, the rules of natural justice required a known owner of the property at least to be given an opportunity to be heard. The application would accordingly be granted.

Mr Justice French agreed. Solicitors: Alexander & Partners, Wilkesville, Solicitors, Metropolitan Police.

Sentence wrong in principle

Regina v Maidstone Crown Court, Ex parte Litchfield

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Tucker
Judgment June 23

On an appeal against disqualification for driving it was wrong in principle for a court to quash the disqualification and make up for that by quadrupling the fine originally imposed by the justices.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in granting an application for judicial review brought by Mark Shirley Portal Litchfield against the decision of Maidstone Crown Court Judge Simpson and justices on December 17, 1990 allowing Mr

Litchfield's appeal against disqualification by the Sevenoaks Justices but increasing the fine from £120 to £500.

Mr Litchfield in person; the court did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE TUCKER said that Mr Litchfield was stopped in the early hours of March 17, 1990 on the M26 for driving at an excessive speed, which he frankly admitted.

He was summoned on September 18 by the Sevenoaks Magistrates Court and he notified them of his intention to plead guilty.

He appeared at the magistrates court following a notification to him that the court was considering

disqualifying him. He was fined £120 and disqualified for one month. He appealed to Maidstone Crown Court only against the disqualification.

Judge Simpson and two justices allowed the appeal against the disqualification but, without making any enquiry into Mr Litchfield's means, increased the £120 fine to £500.

In his Lordship's view, the judge and justices were wrong in principle to do that.

While it was open to a crown court to increase a fine, it was usual to give a defendant a warning and an opportunity to consider whether to pursue the appeal. Lord Justice Watkins agreed.

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Lawyer Jokes

It occurs to me that English lawyers have been enjoying a golden age this past hundred years. Readers may shake their heads and smile, but then how can we know? Only when the great days are gone are they recognised for what they were.

In the 18th Century, widespread corruption in the law justified Doctor Johnson's famous remark about a lawyer he knew, that "he did not care to speak ill of any man behind his back, but he believed the gentleman was an attorney."

Latterly, the bitterness against lawyers has faded. But will this now change? Look how things are going in the USA! See the future, and weep. The Americans hate their lawyers. Just listen, for instance, to their jokes. "How can you tell when a lawyer is lying?" they ask. "When his lips move." Or again: "Why don't sharks eat lawyers?" Answer: Professional courtesy! Even more doubtful: "What's the difference between a lawyer and a hedgehog lying in the road run over by an automobile?" Answer: The skidmarks in front of the hedgehog.

Another American "joke" compares their lawyers with the rat. "Laboratory technicians," it goes, "are now using lawyers rather than rats for their experiments. Firstly, there are more lawyers than rats. Secondly, the technicians find they become less attached to the lawyers. And thirdly, lawyers can be made to do things which no self-respecting rat would ever do." Fortunately, English lawyers have not become the butt of such offensive humour. But if England goes the way of the USA, the golden age for lawyers here could be coming to an end. Michael Chambers

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Mark Mildred looks at the effects in Britain of an American ruling on tobacco health warnings

Where there's smoke, there may be damages

Litigation on tobacco is in one sense the ultimate product liability litigation. Tobacco is a product that does not save lives, has little or no beneficial effect, is addictive and is said to kill at least tens of thousands of people a year in the United Kingdom. However, as a product, tobacco has not been held responsible for its effects. But a ruling by the United States Supreme Court last week may be the first step towards changing that.

Rose Cipollone of New Jersey died of lung cancer in 1984 after being a habitual smoker for 42 years. Since her death, her family has been trying to sue the manufacturers of her favourite brand of cigarettes.

In 1986, the manufacturer, Liggett & Myers, persuaded the court that because it had placed the Surgeon General's health warning on the packet, a legally effective consent to any risks assumed by the smoker was agreed.

This is an example of the US legal doctrine of "pre-emption", which provides that, where the federal government has assumed to itself the power and duty to make regulations for the conduct of a particular activity, compliance with those regulations will be a complete defence for the complying party to any claims brought against it that allege failure to warn of product hazards. In short, compliance with federal standards affords a complete defence.

The full judgment is not yet to hand but the court seems to have decided that compliance with federal standards protects the company where smokers claim that they were not adequately warned of dangers but does not defeat claims based on intentional fraud and misrepresentation or conspiracy to deceive smokers by presenting smoking as harmless. In the press, both manufacturers and the anti-smoking lobby have been claiming the ruling as a victory.

How will it affect the few claims so far lodged in the British courts? First, English law does not recognise the doctrine of pre-emption. If it did, it would be hard to see how any person injured by a licensed pharmaceutical product can claim damages against the manufacturer of that drug since by definition the government regulatory authority will have approved the product before it is allowed on the market. The tendency of the British courts is to view compliance with regulatory requirements as evidence of good practice, adequate research and existing standards of knowledge rather than as a substantive defence.

Second, the ruling does not affect



Smoke signal: a protest in central London, on behalf of alleged smoking victims, at the annual meeting of a tobacco manufacturer

in any way the hurdles a British claimant must jump to succeed in proving liability and causation of damage.

The smoker must prove (a) negligence on the part of the manufacturer, in its promotion of its product, having regard to the disparity between known and advertised risk, with or without evidence of conspiracy or deceit; (b) that it was that wrongdoing which

resulted in damage; ie, damage and addiction did not take place during a period of time where the manufacturer was not at fault; (c) that the injuries caused were in fact caused by tobacco rather than any other agent or by simple genetic susceptibility; and (d) that the smoker can correctly identify the manufacturer of the causative agent. This must be an incidence of brand loyalty — a mixed blessing

for the particular manufacturer.

Finally, the smoker must show there was no valid consent to or assumption of risk of damage by tobacco products brought about by adequate and fair disclosure from the manufacturer or other providers of information.

This test will clearly become more difficult to satisfy as the anti-smoking lobby gains ground and as publicity about the health risks of

smoking becomes more widely disseminated and accepted.

It is therefore no surprise that tobacco litigation in the UK is confined at present to a handful of cases. The recent Cipollone decision will provide at least moral support but will scarcely diminish the formidable legal obstacles that stand in any claimant's way.

The author is a solicitor for Pannone Napier

A dual role for the tax lawyers

Solicitors who are accountants are winning more business than ever

The cultural split between solicitors and accountants normally reveals itself only in waspish remarks. There are, however, certain border disputes between the professions in which insults give way occasionally to outright warfare.

Tax work is the most contentious area and City law firms such as Cameron Markby Hewitt and Wilde Sapte have adopted an ingenious strategy to claim this rich territory. Both are now recruiting "dual-qualified" people, who hold both legal and accounting qualifications. There are few of these and, says Chris Nelson, an employment consultant at the Michael Page agency, they are in intense demand.

"There is real competition between the lawyers and the accountants for dual-qualified staff and usually the law firms are able to make the better offer," Mr Nelson says. Stephen Charge — originally a barrister, then an Arthur Andersen-trained accountant and now a solicitor with Cameron Markby — is an example of this rare breed. Although full of respect for the Andersen training and effectiveness, he found the corporate discipline hard to accept.

Cameron Markby recruited Mr Charge to lead the advance on tax work. "There are a number of law firms that have regretted over the years the way the accountants have taken over tax," Mr Charge says. "The time had come to start retrieving some of it. I was brought in to give some bite to that attack."

Part of the problem for lawyers has been that to qualify as a solicitor requires little tax knowledge, so outside Clifford Chance, Linklaters, Freshfields and Slaughter & May, few firms have the resources to put up a credible showing. Under Mr Charge, Cameron Markby has a four-person team with Big Six accounting and Inland Revenue experience, who can compete seriously at "beauty parades". Mr Charge says: "We are now encouraging the firm's trainees to come and spend some of their training

with us, and it is proving very popular. We are also encouraging our solicitors to qualify through the Institute of Taxation as a way of showing that they are serious about their interest in tax work."

The high point in Mr Charge's brief career with Cameron Markby so far is being invited to pitch for work against one of the Big Six firms and winning the job.

"Until a short time ago, a law firm like ours would simply never have been asked to go for the work," Mr Charge says. Mr Nelson says the selling point that law firms have over accountants is their continued emphasis on the role of individual partners.

The big accountancy firms tend not to have such personal ties with the client. Law firms, especially those of Cameron Markby's size, still emphasise the individual relationship. "What we also argue is that in specialist tax work with legal complexities a lawyer will handle it better than an accountant," Mr Charge says. Mr Nelson, who is also a lawyer as well as an accountant, says that a growing number of his industrial clients are now saying they are turning to lawyers for "very technical, real quality work".

The only obstacle is the status of the tax departments. They are often backroom service departments to the company and commercial lawyers and can rarely promote themselves directly to the client.

Mr Charge, however, drawing on his oral skills and personality as a barrister, has no qualms about promoting himself vigorously face to face with prospective clients.

He says: "What happens when we recruit accountants to join the team? What career prospects can we offer them? My guess is that tax departments could be the thin edge of the wedge on multidisciplinary partnerships. I can see us setting up satellite partnerships for accountants, and once that happens you will have a multidisciplinary partnership in all but name."

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Stephen Charge: skills

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England batsman rediscovers his touch

Hick hits century but cannot stop victory for Sussex

By Alan Lee
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

WORCESTER (final day of three): Sussex (23pts) beat Worcestershire (6) by 80 runs

IT HAS been a long time since Worcestershire had a century by Graeme Hick to relish, and when it came it only took the sting out of heavy defeat. Hick's 131, awesomely detached from what was otherwise an abject collapse to a Sussex team which can no longer be underrated.

Hick improbably delayed Sussex's second successive championship win until the ninth over of the last hour. He had not made a first-class century for his county since last August, when Pakistan's Waqar Younis was leading the Surrey opposition, and this was his first in 31 innings in all cricket this summer. It was not flawless but it was nothing if not positive, within a very negative scenario.

In a total of 195, the next highest score was 16 and Franklin Stephenson, who completed a wonderful all-round performance with figures of seven for 29, decided the game even if he could not dominate the headlines.

Stephenson, a spring in his stride to belie his 33 years, was an unpleasant proposition throughout, as he made the ball rear from a pitch that had given the seam bowlers con-

COUNTY TABLE

	P	W	L	D	BT	PTS
Essex (1)	9	4	3	3	28	121
Gloucestershire	9	4	3	3	28	110
Nottinghamshire	9	4	3	3	28	107
Hampshire (5)	9	3	3	3	27	106
Worcestershire	9	3	3	3	27	102
Sussex (1)	9	3	3	3	27	99
Derbyshire	9	3	3	3	27	99
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Worcestershire	9	3	3	3	27	99
Sussex (1)	9	3	3	3	27	99
Derbyshire	9	3	3	3	27	99
Leicestershire	9	3	3	3	27	99
Warwickshire	9	3	3	3	27	99
Yorkshire (14)	9	3	3	3	27	99
Northamptonshire	9	3	3	3	27	99
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Yorkshire (14)	9	3	3	3	27	99
Northamptonshire	9	3	3	3	27	99</

CRICKET
Britannic Assurance county championship
 (110, 110 over minimum)

DERBY: Derbyshire vs Gloucestershire
DOVER: Essex vs Middlesex
MAIDSTONE: Kent vs Nottinghamshire
LEICESTER: Lancashire vs Worcestershire
THE OVAL: Surrey vs Northamptonshire
ARUNDEL: Sussex vs Hampshire

University match
 (11.30 to 6.30)
LORD'S: Oxford vs Cambridge

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP:
 Pencil: Cumberland vs Norfolk
RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Epkeston: Durham vs Somerset; Bournechurch: Hampshire vs Glamorgan; Southgate: Middlesex vs Derbyshire; Oundle: Northamptonshire vs Gloucestershire; Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire vs Gloucestershire; Hove: Sussex vs Essex; St Albans: Warwickshire vs Worcestershire; Yorkshire.

OTHER SPORT
BOWLS: British Isles championships and international series (June).
POOL: Dudley: Gold Cup, British Open (Cowdrey Park); Cheshire Champion Cup (Oulton); Gloucestershire Champion Cup (Cheney).

TENNIS: All England championships (Wimbledon).

MOTOR RACING
BRANDS HATCH: Halfords British Formula Two Championship, Fifth round, 26 June 12.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.

TUESDAY JUNE 30 1992

Forget survives match point to clinch five-set victory over gallant Englishman

Bates goes out as chance passes by

BY ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

JUST one moment of luck, tension, call it what you will, robbed Jeremy Bates of his finest hour against Guy Forget on the centre court yesterday. For over three hours, the British No. 1 had matched the No. 9 seed, service for service, volley for volley, until he needed to summon just one more point to guarantee a return to the centre court, in the quarter-final against John McEnroe, and a place on a shortlist of British heroes at Wimbledon.

The crowd, which had just managed to keep its understandable bias within the bounds of gentility, held its breath one final time, only for Bates to abort his service action in mid-toss. "I don't know what it was. Somebody sneezed, I think. But it was so quiet, you could hear a pin drop," Bates said later.

If the collective will could have taken hold of the ball at that moment, Bates would now be preparing for another two days of stardom, but he missed his first service and, with one last desperate throw of the dice, Forget produced a peerless forehand return off a short second service to stave off defeat. Quickly, inevitably, a remarkable story of resilience and courage turned into the much more familiar tale of gallant British defeat.

Amid a welter of net cords, the most crucial of which came at 30-0 moments before his match point, the Frenchman rode his luck, levelled the match in the tie-break, and, while the Englishman was still trying to gather his thoughts, broke decisively early in the fifth set to set up a 6-7, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3 victory in three hours and 51 minutes.

"I knew I was almost out," Forget admitted. "But I still had a chance and I knew if I could break back, the pressure that I had been under would turn on him. You always need a bit of luck to win."

Bates deserved a better and kinder fate. True to his word, he had fought for every point, never allowed himself to be



Photograph, page 1
Simon Barnes, page 33

overwhelmed or downcast by the force of Forget's serving and had produced an exhibition of volleying, particularly on the backhand, which was worthy of the final itself.

Both men have a history of succumbing to nerves, but Bates had slowly and surely belied that reputation in beating Michael Chang, Javier Sánchez and Thierry Champion in the first week and was not about to revert to his old ways on his singles debut on centre court.

If anything, Forget looked more tense. He seemed bemused by the varied pace on Bates's serve and, despite his tally of 31 aces, never found the happiest rhythm on his own serve. He discarded his white cap in frustration, one of his better volleys depositing it at the side of the court, and donned a natty cravat midway through the fourth set to ward off the sun. It was even too hot for Bates's lucky sleeveless sweater.

The first tie-break set the tone of the match. Bates, who had already saved two set points in the tenth game, survived two more, two backhand passes, the second so delicately placed it beat Forget's acrobatics, setting up a third set point of his own, which the Englishman took with aplomb.

One break — the first of six in the match — settled the second set in the Frenchman's favour and the third for Bates, who had needed treatment for a strain in his neck, but played perhaps the best game of all to break once more for a 2-1 lead in the fourth set.

"I felt he had taken a little off his serve then and I felt very good," the rush of confidence lasted until that fatal service game. "I gave it everything and I played well enough to win. It's heartbreaking, because match points for a place in the Wimbledon quarter-final don't come by every day," Bates said. Perhaps he should have worn his sweater after all.



Just beyond reach: Bates stretches a point on the backhand during his five-set defeat by Forget yesterday

Brave Bates bows out in style

DAVID MILLER

In the virtues it grants, life seldom gives you everything. If Jeremy Bates had the big service of, say, Mike Sangster, of 30 years ago, or Sangster had had the sweet, low backhand volley with which Bates yesterday repeatedly won points on the centre court, either might have been Wimbledon champion.

Bates has had to wait 30 years for the week that has made all his effort now seem worthwhile. He did no more than have match point, against the eighth-ranked player in the world, for a quarter-final against John McEnroe.

They don't write books about you on account of that yet, for a few days, Bates has bravely and occasionally stylishly represented his country as well as himself in the game's most eminent tournament.

He, and they, briefly felt good. He carried on to the centre court with him their well-wishing support, spoken

and unspoken, everyone wanting to see Britain shine again in men's singles. For some four hours, Bates did.

All the while, I kept thinking that he would be better off called Jerry. Like Fred, that would carry more of a challenge. "C'mon, Jeremy" sounds altogether too polite for the grass bulling.

Some of the strokeplay from Bates was as good as anything I ever saw from Sangster, Roger Taylor or, certainly, Buster Mottram, the last British player in the last 16. Maybe only Bobby Wilson had a better low, backhand volley.

The lesson from his relative achievement for other, younger British tennis players, Bates said when questioned, was that the biggest variable at the top is mental. That was where, I recall, Bobby had been a bit short.

"If you have ability, you're capable," Bates said. His

modesty tends to present the face of a non-achiever, which is unfair.

Bates, these past few days, played as well as it is possible to play with what he has got. If he could add anything to his game, he said, it would be a big service. His second service makes Rosewall's look venomous.

Bates epitomises so much of British tennis: a lot of reasonable players but none of them great athletes. You will not see a better backhand volley than that which gave him game point at the start of the second set, or the dipping backhand which gained his second set point in the first set.

Nor could the two volleys that gave him 4-2 in the fourth set have been improved, likewise, the backhands that made him 30-0 when serving for the match at 5-4.

Forget was beginning to make some French-sounding noises of frustration at the other end: Bates looking increasingly dominant.

I recall, long ago, attending the hard-court championships in Antwerp, especially to watch Sangster and Taylor attempting to improve their ground strokes prior to a Davis Cup tie. It proved a vain week.

What they both had, that carried them to a collective five grand slam grass-court semi-finals, was, of course, a big service.

Now, for Bates, came the first of the net cords in Forget's favour that were to haunt Bates — some defiant ghost riding shotgun along the net. "It's heart-breaking but what can you do," he lamented. "I had six in a ten-minute spell that was crucial."

None the less, Bates said, it had been the best eight days of his life. I hope some athletes who maybe can hit a tennis ball were watching him.

Lendl forced to make a painful exit

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

FORTUNE has never been Ivan Lendl's closest friend at Wimbledon and yesterday bad luck struck once more when the No. 10 seed had to retire early in the fourth set against Goran Ivanisevic. Lendl was already struggling to stay with the big-serving Croat when he felt a pain in his lower back early in the third set.

He continued for another seven games, losing the third set before, broken again early in the fourth, he decided that discretion was the better part of valour.

If this is Lendl's final fling it is a sad farewell to grass for one of the championships' greatest triers. The Czech (he is only a month or two short of being American) has always found something or somebody blocking his way to the one title he does not yet hold. On paper and on form this was not due to be his year either, but he had struck such a rich vein of form at the end of his previous victory against Sandoz Stolle that anything seemed possible. But it was not to be.

Though, in the end, it was a hollow victory, his first against the former world No. 1, Ivanisevic, the No. 8 seed, was impressive enough to encourage thoughts in his mind that even his next opponent, Stefan Edberg, is not beyond his considerable reach.

Edberg survived one of those extraordinary summers, which tend to litter his game these days, to save off the challenge of his Swedish compatriot, Henrik Holm. Holm was one of three qualifiers to reach the fourth round — none survived to the last eight — but when he took the third set tie-break 7-1, it seemed Edberg's jitters might re-surface.

But the former champion gathered himself together quickly enough in the fourth set and enjoyed a reasonably peaceful passage thereafter to win 6-3, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3. He will need to be rather more sure of himself in the face of Ivanisevic's power.

Lendl knew that he would be the coonut at the fair against Ivanisevic's service. Twenty-seven aces boomed past the 32-year-old and, though that would not have contributed to his eventual retirement, he must have wondered whether the game had not moved on too quickly. Only by dint of nerve and experience did he manage to

Quarter-finals

Men

J McEnroe (US) v G Forget (F, 8)
B Becker (Ger, 4) v W Ferreira (SA, 14)
A Agassi (US, 10) v P Sampras (US, 5)
P Sampras (US, 5) v M Stich (Ger, 3)
G Ivanisevic (Cro, 8) v S Edberg (Swe, 2)

Women

M Seles (Yug, 11) v N Tauziat (F, 14)
M Navratilova (US, 4) v K Maleeva (Bul, 12)
J Capriati (US, 6) v G Sabatini (Arg, 3)
N Zvereva (CIS) v S Graf (Ger, 2)

squeak through in the tie-break, but as Ivanisevic held his notoriously brittle temperament together, it was all one-way traffic until his back broke. Ivanisevic had seen the signs earlier.

"In the middle of the first set he was throwing the ball lower and moving to the net pretty slow and I saw something was wrong," he said. "But I just tried to keep my head and I was serving very well. So even with a good back today I think I had the better chance."

Lendl only held his service once in the second set and was broken again in the seventh game of the third set, a double fault doing little to help his cause. His fallibility was mightily emphasised when Ivanisevic produced four straight aces in the next game.

Pete Sampras has not been far behind in the power game. He produced another 25 aces to dispose of Arnaud Boesche and book a quarter-final with the defending champion Michael Stich. Stich, the No. 3 seed, again started slowly, losing the opening set to Wally Masur, but once he found his service and returns the tough Australian was simply overpowered. Stich won much as he pleased 3-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.

Sampras, who seems to have found his feet on grass at last, will present more formidable opposition for the champion. The American's victory yesterday was conclusive enough but a little breathless at the death, when he had to save two set points in a fluctuating tie-break before coming safely through to the last eight, where he will be joined by his more flamboyant countryman, Andre Agassi, who ended the gallant run of another qualifier, Christian Saccani, in two tie-breaks and three sets.

John McEnroe and Michael Stich pulled off a delayed-action coup last night by putting the top seeds and defending champions, John Fitzgerald and Anders Jarryd, out of the men's doubles.

The match was halted controversially on Friday because of bad light with the scratch American-German pairing two sets up, and McEnroe has been quick to voice his displeasure.

It was due to be resumed Saturday, but could not be fitted into the programme. But when it finally got under way again last night McEnroe and Stich wasted no time in wrapping up a 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 victory.



McEnroe: through

DeFreitas is forced out of third Test

SEVEN overs in a county second-team match at Northampton yesterday were enough to convince Phillip DeFreitas that his groin injury would be a liability in a five-day Test match (Alan Lee writes). Promptly and sensibly, he withdrew from the England party which gathers at Old Trafford today.

"I have to be honest about this. I don't want to let down ten other players," DeFreitas said.

There is no plan to recruit an additional bowler for the third Test which starts on Thursday, so the place vacated by DeFreitas will go either to Tim Munton, who would be making his debut after twice being omitted on the morning of the game, or to Derek Pringle, for whom it would not be quite such a novelty.

Either way, the attack has been weakened demonstrably and England's chances of dismissing Pakistan twice, almost certainly with only four specialist bowlers, have diminished still further. It is because DeFreitas has, during the past year, become such a crucial element in the side that the

selectors persevered to the extent of including him in a 13-man squad.

"Duffy is still aware of his groin injury and we cannot afford to take a chance with him," Micky Stewart, the England manager, said. "He's not in any great pain, and hopefully it's now just a question of rest."

The selectors must have known that the odds against him being properly fit were dauntingly long; equally, they must have recognised the folly of taking any calculated risks on him, when to break down as he did at Lord's would have left threadbare resources for what seems sure to be an unhelpful pitch.

DeFreitas was encouraged by his eight-over spell in the Sunday League, when Graham Gooch, the England captain, was his one victim. Yesterday, however, he felt discomfort after only two overs. He must now submit to a period of rest for an injury which has troubled him, periodically, since early in the winter tour of New Zealand.

More cricket, page 32

Testing is put to test by Krabbe

BY JOHN GOODBODY

ATHLETICS has suffered a blow to its reputation and integrity over the controversy involving Karin Krabbe, the 100 and 200 metres world champion, and two other German sprinters, whose four-year ban for allegedly manipulating their drug samples has been lifted.

Following the suspension and then temporary reinstatement of Harry "Butch" Reynolds, the American holder of the 400 metres world record, it is clear that much stricter regulations for doping control procedures must be put in place, or else the whole battle against drug use in track and field will be jeopardised.

Although Krabbe said yesterday that she might not run in the Olympic Games in Barcelona because of her lack of form, she is only 22 years old and is certain to continue her athletics career, which could earn her an estimated £250,000 annually in appearance money and endorsements. The three German sprinters — Krabbe, Silke Möller and Grit Breuer — had their suspensions lifted on Sunday after a weekend hear-

ing at the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) in London found that the constitution of DLV, the German federation, has no provision either for out-of-competition testing, or for a proper penalty procedure for an athlete found positive, even during competition.

That such a leading athletics nation as Germany has not got watertight doping control regulations is astonishing. The three-man arbitration panel of the IAAF had to clear the German trio because any ban would be challenged in

the courts, and the German trio may have won, in any case, the panel had doubts whether any offence by the three former East German athletes, all of whom have protested their innocence, had ever taken place. They gave urine samples in South Africa on January 24 and these were flown to Cologne, where they were analysed by Professor Manfred Donike, one of the world's foremost experts.

He found that the samples were tainted by any prohibited drugs, but had all come from the same person, suggesting manipulation. The unanswered question is: who did the manipulation?

Although DLV suspended the athletes on February 7, it was overruled by its own legal commission on April 5, when it was recognised that there was an absence of a proper legal structure to enforce any suspension. Mark Gay, the IAAF's lawyer, said yesterday that the world governing body would request an "urgent explanation" from DLV and ask for an amendment to its constitution. Under IAAF regulations, the rules had to be incorporated in a member federation's constitution. "We

rely on our members to get it right," he said. However, Lutz Neubert, a spokesman for DLV, said yesterday: "I do not understand the IAAF explanation. Our rules allow for tests. If the federation cannot carry out tests, then who can?"

The acquittal drew mixed reaction in Germany, where the plight of the athletes sparked a debate over whether they were unjustly accused, as well as over the soiled legacy of the former East German athletics system where drug use was allegedly widespread.

Ferit Tilmann, head of the Bundestag's sports commission, said: "There is no doubt that tougher and doping controls must be introduced."

Charles Woodhouse, a lawyer who helped draft the doping rules for the British Athletics Federation, said yesterday: "Nothing has surprised me in the Reynolds or the Krabbe affairs."

Woodhouse said it was essential that competitors should be obliged to give their consent to random testing if they wished to be considered for international selection. At least the Krabbe and Reynolds incidents will have concentrated people's minds



Krabbe: acquitted

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Boy soprano who slid into stardom

Michael Crawford's current success as a singer has brought his career full circle, as he explains to Peter Lewis

As a prelude to the Proms, the Albert Hall is hosting seven concerts from tonight, featuring the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber. The shows, with a 37-piece orchestra and Michael Crawford as star singer, have been selling well for weeks. Crawford's country-wide tour, which follows, is also virtually sold out. So was the tour of Australia from which he has just returned, and so was last year's American tour, which filled open-air amphitheatres with more than 20,000 people each night.

There can be no doubt of the potency of the combination of music and singer or of Crawford's star quality. His Lloyd Webber album with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra this year has sold 750,000 copies in Britain and at least another 750,000 abroad. But here, at last, it is odd to think of him primarily as a romantic ballad singer with the kind of high tenor voice once associated with Count John McCormack. He is firmly fixed in most people's memories through his comedy roles as a young angling idiot-acrobat, best remembered as Frank Spencer in the television series *Some Mothers Do 'ave 'Em*.

"In the United States, I only have his romantic image. They have no idea that I was ever vaguely amusing," Crawford says. "But in other countries they have no other image of me but Frank Spencer."

That image was confirmed by a career spent in films such as *The Naked Stage* farces like *No Sex Please, We're British*, bawling his head into doors or taking off in a panto to perch high up a wall with no obvious means of support. It all culminated in the Harold Lloyd-style exploits of hapless Frank

Spencer, driving off the edge of a cliff or roller-skating between the wheels of a thundering ten-ton lorry. Few of his fans suspected then that he had made his debut at the age of 12 as a boy soprano in Benjamin Britten's chamber operas. Sent to audition for the English Opera Group, he got into the last five candidates out of 800 for the boy in *The Turn of the Screw* but lost the role to David Hemmings. A short while later he was given the lead as the Little Sweep in *Let's Make An Opera*. For two years he travelled with the English Opera Group under the tuition of people such as Charles Mackerras, Eric Crozier and Britten himself.

Crawford says of Britten: "He was a most patient and caring man, who loved his musicians and taught us so much, about rhythm and balance and how the music was linked together."

The company had no permanent base but went for months on tour. "We gave

the premiere of *Noyes Fludde* in Orford church and because my voice was dropping — it didn't break, it slid — he re-wrote my part of Japhet so that it could be sung in a deeper voice than his brothers."

One of the legal requirements of child touring was that you had to attend local secondary modern schools wherever the company went. "You can imagine how popular we were as outsiders. They threw rocks at us. I was a skinny, lightweight and gangling boy and I was bullied country-wide. I grew up on the Isle of Sheppey, where there's no sand on the beach to be kicked in your face, so I was quite used to having pebbles thrown at me."

He left school at 15. Apart from the chamber operas, it was a boyhood spent at the microphone, not only singing but acting in plays



Singing Lloyd Webber has stretched him: Michael Crawford in London for the concert tour including the Albert Hall from tonight

by the hundred for schools radio. "I'd be playing Henry VIII and two of his wives for a fee of a Guinea, plus ten shillings and sixpence for the repeat."

Later, when he won a Broadway award in *Black Comedy*, singing re-entered his life. Gene Kelly cast him in the film of *Hello, Dolly!* with Barbara Streisand. "All I had was a very lightweight voice, a little walk-like sound like Oliver Twist with a hernia," he recalls. It came as a surprise to be given the lead in *Billy*, the musical version of *Billy Liar*, which ran for two years at Drury Lane in the Seventies. That was when he began to take singing seriously again and went for lessons to Ian Adam, who is still his teacher. "I go to him every day when I'm

here and if not, I do two hours' practice with a tape, wherever I am. Thanks to him, my voice has gradually developed strength and resonance. But I didn't get any meat on me until I did *Barnum*, which involved a lot of circus training. "Now," he says, displaying a barrel-chest, "I have this rib cage. It's *Phantom* that did that — sustaining the long notes."

That part came to him because Sarah Brightman arrived early for a lesson with the same singing teacher, accompanied by Andrew Lloyd Webber. "They waited downstairs while I was struggling through an Italian aria. When they came up Andrew asked who it was

singing and said, 'I think we may have found our Phantom.' At first his idea was to do it as a rock opera but he changed direction and sent for me. He played me the opening bars of the overture and the hairs on the back of my neck bristled, my left shoulder lifted and I was drawn up on my toes into the attitude that I used for the Phantom. You have to create a presence in the first moments because he's only on stage for 30 minutes."

Crawford did 1,300 performances of *Phantom of the Opera* in London, New York and Los Angeles and by the time his tour of Britain and then North America ends, he will have spent another two years singing the music from it. But the high spot of his concert programme

and album is from *Jesus Christ Superstar* — not a soft-edged ballad but a savage, lacerating number — "Gethsemane", that ends on a high B flat of anguish, sustained for 35 seconds. Listening to it, one hears a sharper, tougher Crawford coming through the niceness and vulnerability.

At the age of 50 he has given up tightrope walking and falling out of aeroplanes. "For the next ten years I hope to go on singing and to create more characters. I began as a singer and I seem to have come full circle. Mind you, I never thought then that I'd be singing at the Albert Hall, inside it. Outside it, perhaps."

● Tickets may still be available at the Albert Hall (071-823 9998) for tomorrow, Thursday and Sunday.

ARTS BRIEF

Selling points

THE last British cinema circuit to hold out against screen advertising has succumbed to economic inducement. The 97 screens in National Amusements' eight multiplexes will show three minutes of commercials in all their programmes from next month. Ira Korff, head of the Massachusetts-based company, continues to resist advertising in his American cinemas. In this country, he was persuaded by surveys which showed the public had no objection to advertising.

DIY students

MORE than 50 foundation students at West Surrey School of Art and Design, frustrated at the art school system, have taken matters into their own hands and have hired the Westbourne Gallery in Portobello Road, London, to stage their own show. Mike Gaudern, a textile design student, said: "Some people have failed to get a college place, not because they lack talent but because the art school system works that way. We want the world to sit up and take some notice of all this talent so we are moving into London with a selective exhibition culled from our end-of-the-year show at Farnham." Ceramics, sculpture, fashion, textiles, film, photography, fine art, illustration and graphic design will be on show from tomorrow for two weeks.

Last chance...

LIKE the cartoonists in *The New Yorker*, Dave Frishberg's humour takes a wry view of American urban life. An astute jazz pianist as well, Frishberg has been back in London, appearing at the Music Room at Pizza On The Park in Knightsbridge (071-235 5273). He will be in residence until Saturday, performing such tunes as "I'm Hip", "My Attorney Bernie" and "Blizzard of Lies". His sideswipe at the "We must have lunch" brigade.

ROCK REVIEW

Only one comes out on top

Eric Clapton/
Elton John
Wembley Stadium

Equal billing is fine in theory, but the hard reality is that one of the two usually loses out. Whether it was Elton John who drew the short straw or Eric Clapton who pulled rank as the more experienced live performer is not known, but at Friday's now it was John who went on first. He took the stage shortly after 6pm, at a time when most people who could afford the £27.50 layout for a ticket could not long have finished work and the traffic outside was backed up in all directions for miles around. It was broad daylight when he left 90 minutes later, and the massive 72,000-capacity venue is still filling up.

Under these circumstances he could be forgiven for not nipping his mark on proceedings with as much force as might have been expected in such a seasoned campaigner. But there was more to him than that. Sporting a bright jacket, pink-rimmed sunglasses and the luxuriant, bearded moustache, he put a lot into a set which was a lightweight to ease

with the ergonomics of a venue this size. After a good start with a majestic "Don't Let the Sun Go Down On Me" and an energetic "I'm Still Standing", the proceedings began to lag as John worked his way through a combination of old and new material, from "Philadelphia Freedom" and "Burn Down the Mission" to "Simple Life" and the title track of his disappointing new album, *The One*.

Having outgrown the outrageous costumes and hectic pantomime routines for which his shows were once famous, John seems to have lost a vital element of projection in his performing style. Anchored to his piano for most of the set (even if it did rise up and down a few feet on a hydraulic lift at one point) and far too dependent on dolorous ballads such as "Sorry Seems To Be the

Hardest Word" and "The Last Song", John lacked the power and presence necessary to excel under the admittedly trying conditions.

When he made an ungainly leap off the keyboard dais during a wretched version of Queen's "The Show Must Go On", it seemed as though a sudden gust of wind would be enough to blow him away.

There was no such lack of gravity in Clapton's performance. An even older statesman of rock than John, the ravages of time have only enhanced the blues resonances of Clapton's best music and, of late, lent more power to his playing elbow. The giant video screens at the side of the stage revealed a deeply careworn face, while his off-white suit was lit so as to appear almost luminous as he wandered about the stage in the gathering dusk.

Although not singing at his best, he put across the fragile high-pitched melody of "Tears In Heaven" and the cosy, fireside emotion of "Wonderful Tonight" with a wistful grace that defied and eventual-



Mood master: Eric Clapton at Wembley Stadium

ly even subdued the loutish background noise of the crowd. But it was his ever-fluent soloing on perennials like "I Shot the Sheriff", "Badge" and "Layla" that formed the backbone of the performance.

Some of it was perfunctory, but not much, and time and again Clapton demonstrated his ability to create a heart-stopping mood, switching in an instant from displays of ferocious aggression to deli-

cate restraint. The most stirring passage was a long solo during "Old Love", a slow, blues-rock number which he buried under fast flurries of notes that gradually built into an avalanche. Standing in a pool of light, a smouldering cigarette jammed in his guitar's headstock, Clapton offered a vintage performance: he was every inch a match for the occasion.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TELEVISION REVIEW

Bad dreams without end

THE idea of nodding off and not waking up for a fortnight can sometimes seem quite appealing. Wimbledon could slip by unnoticed; the election campaign would begin with drooping eyelids and end with a yawn and a stretch, so much more refreshing than the real thing.

The Australian psychiatric patients put to sleep by Dr Harry Bailey hardly saw it that way. On Channel 4's *Secret History* last night they paraded one after another to denounce the late Dr Bailey as a charlatan and fraud who had irretrievably damaged their lives. In some cases, terminally; though even Channel 4 in investigative mood has yet to find ways of interviewing the dead, it did the next best thing by running a scroll of their names across the screen and talking to surviving relatives.

Dr Bailey was a charismatic figure, able to persuade the Australian medical authorities and other doctors, not to mention patients, of the value of a treatment that had never been properly tested. The basic idea originated in Britain,

from Dr William Sargant of St Thomas's Hospital, who reasoned that if patients could be put into a deep sleep for a week or two, their minds might have a chance to straighten themselves out.

This is at least as plausible an idea as many in psychiatry. Dr Bailey, however, was not content with merely putting his patients to sleep. He drugged them to the eyeballs so that they went into deep coma, and then he gave them electric shock treatments, sometimes daily. Though many were no more than mildly depressed when they went into Chelmsford Hospital in Sydney, they were shattered when they came out; 24 committed suicide.

Worse still, an equal number actually died during the treatment. Most were young and physically fit individuals, so the alarm bells ought to have been ringing loud and long. A former attorney-general of New South Wales, Frank Walker, who tried to get something done, described it as "a horror story". That seems to me to be a

perfectly fair judgement.

After the scandal was exposed, Dr Bailey committed suicide. His three closest colleagues, however, are still alive, though understandably reluctant to speak on camera. One has been charged with manslaughter, but the case has yet to come to court.

Secret Lives told the story well enough, though it left a lot of loose ends. Did none of Dr Bailey's patients benefit from the regime? If so, it seems remarkable that he was allowed to go on so long. What do other Australian psychiatrists think, and why were they silent at the time? We are not, after all, talking about Romania under Ceausescu; this was a country with a free Press and a solid medical tradition.

No easy conclusions are possible on this evidence, except that psychiatry in the Sixties and Seventies was a branch of medicine desperate for effective therapies and ripe for exploitation. In that respect, less may have changed than we might wish.

NIGEL HAWKES

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Under canvas in Merthyr Tydfil
Under sail in Ellesmere Port

The European Arts Festival starts this Wednesday all over the United Kingdom. Among this month's highlights: The Festival's own travelling exhibition visits twelve towns nationwide including Merthyr Tydfil; the Ellesmere Port Boat Museum mounts an exhibition to coincide with the Tall Ships regatta. The Festival celebrates the UK's Presidency of the European Commission and promises a rich and varied programme of arts events each month until December. The nationwide events guide is available through local libraries, arts and information centres. Look out for the Festival near you - and discover the first language of Europe.

EUROPEAN ARTS FESTIVAL
JULY-DECEMBER 1992

Sunshine and sea breezes

From windswept Languedoc to the chic of St Tropez — Robin Neillands selects the best beaches on the south coast



The Mediterranean coast of France sweeps round from the Pyrenees to the Italian frontier like a great bow, with Provence separated from Languedoc by the tight grip of the Camargue delta. Provence and Languedoc offer a great choice of beaches and contrasting life styles, though the difference is not as great as it was. Both coasts have been "discovered". Languedoc by the international self-catering set, and the once-fashionable Côte d'Azur by anyone with a dollar or two to spare: a lot of the style has gone, alas.

Those who like endless miles of sand should choose the Languedoc: those who like their seaside on a smaller scale, with rocky coves and offshore islands, will be happier in Provence. Wherever they go, holidaymakers would be well advised to avoid the August crowds.

Until about 25 years ago, there was nothing along the Golfe du Lion but empty beaches, small fishing ports and the occasional walled town. Holidaymakers were kept away by swarms of mosquitos until the early 1960s when the insect sprayers moved in and the development began. Today, this once-desolate coast is one of the busiest holiday areas in Europe.

A coastal tour could begin at Collioure, a delightful port close to the Pyrenees, well known for its seafood restaurants, a splendid Templar castle and a pink-tiled Roman lighthouse. Collioure has safe bathing and a great line of terrace restaurants just behind the beach, as well as my own favourite restaurant hereabouts, La Bodega.

To the north is Argelès-Plage and Canet-Plage and St Cyprien and a score besides, all new, all with the latest facilities. Marinas provide shelter for yachtsmen cruising along this exposed and windy coast where the tramontane can kick up a gale in minutes and the gendarmes put up flags to warn those on airbeds not to float too far out to sea. Windsurfers come here by the thousand.

The beaches of the Languedoc coast are backed by great salt lakes or *étangs*. Their shallow waters are thickly lined with the stakes and fences of the mussel fishermen, for a bowl of mussels and a bottle of *gris de gris* wine is one of the specialties of the region.

The newer resorts appeal to family parties attracted by the lower prices they find here, and a young and athletic clientele who come for the water sports and the abundance of bars, restaurants and amazingly loud discos. The



Bathed in Mediterranean glory: Cannes still attracts its share of the serious sun-worshippers

children are catered for with endless amounts of sand, safe bathing and the *clubs des jeunes*. Some of the beaches are reserved for nudists and attract hordes of Germans and Scandinavian holidaymakers.

Further north there are attractive resorts at Port Baccres and Leucate, and more salt flats as the coast starts to swing east past the yachting centre of Port-la-Nouvelle, and on to Gruissan and Narbonne-Plage.

Valras-Plage is an older resort, which has been much enlarged in recent years and is now surrounded by caravan parks and campsites. The beach is long, safe and sandy, and there are plenty of bars and cafés and small hotels. Nearby Béziers, which provides much of the nightlife, is a centre for the Languedoc wine trade and hosts a great wine festival on August 15.

Further east lies the medieval port of Agde where the *four*, water-jousting, is fought out on summer Sunday evenings. Nearby is Cap d'Agde, one of the nicest of

the new resorts which has one of the largest nudist areas in France. Apart from excellent beach and watersport activities (the nudists keep to their own part of the beach), it has a good nightlife and some fine restaurants, though the finest, Les Trois Sergents in Agde. The same combination of good beaches, food and nightlife can be found at Sète, the Mediterranean terminal of the Canal du Midi.

The edge of the Camargue delta has the old walled town of Aigues Mortes and the zigzags of La Grande Motte, one of the first new-style resorts, larger than most and among the most attractive. Les Sies Marins de la Mer, where the gypsies gather every summer, is in the Camargue, a place more famous for white horses, black bulls and pink flamingos than beach resorts. This area is ideal for excursions, with Arles, Nîmes, Montpellier, the Cévennes hills and the wine country of the Rhône in easy reach.

Across the Rhône lies another style of beach resort, older, smaller, more fashionable. Going topless is very much the mode in Provence, with total nudity common on the islands and anywhere slightly secluded. Large yachts moor offshore, jet skis dash about among the windsurfers, and children seem more rare. This is the Riviera, the fabled Côte d'Azur, still working hard at being a holiday playground for the rich and famous.

Just east of Marseilles are the *calanques*, the little bays which shelter small resorts such as Cassis and La Ciotat. Good restaurants abound with La Presqu'île in Cassis being a particular favourite. There are beaches which can only be reached from the sea, and these tend to shelter the nudists: others cater for those who like to see and be seen, and break up their sunbathing with a long lunch. Mountains rear up in the haze behind the coast and the resorts get bigger as you move east, past Bandol to Sanary-sur-Mer and around the

TESTING THE WATERS

NINE per cent of French beaches are so polluted that at some point during the summer they will be dangerous. France's sunny sands, and the water that laps over them, have suffered relentless abuse over the years. In a country where displays of civic spirit are often seen as wimpish and neuride, litter has usually stayed behind long after the tourists left. Beaches and sand dunes have been used for motorbike races and by four-wheel drive vehicles, which have destroyed delicate vegetation. Untreated sewage, effluent from rubbish tips, oil seepages, environmentally-unfriendly farmers and rubbish jettisoned from yachts have helped contaminate the water.

Perhaps through a heightened public awareness of pollution, and the realisation of the economic consequences for tourism, local authorities have started to take action. But, of the many popular beaches facing Britain, from Calais down to the Basque Normandy coast below Cherbourg, 48 are still condemned by the authorities.

Boulogne-sur-Mer, for example, gets the Red Mark for bad quality water. Neither Trouville nor Deauville, packed with British and French summer visitors, come up to EC scratch, and may be polluted. With the shining exceptions of the Loire-Atlantique, the Vendée and the Gironde beaches, the Atlantic coast does little better. The most popular beach in La Rochelle, among others, gets the thumbs down.

The Mediterranean scores quite well; all 27 beaches around Nice, for example, get clean ratings. Of the 18 bathing spots in Cannes, just one, at the famous Grand Hotel, gets a warning note. Seven other Riviera strands get Yellow Spots, none register Red.

The figures have been publicised in a burst of glasnost by the environment and health minis-

tries. Many households have received a four-page, colour brochure explaining how the testing procedure works, showing the overall figures for last year, and suggesting how local authorities could further reduce levels of pollution.

The document predicts significant improvements by the year 2000, but points out that responsibility for cleaning up the beaches lies firmly with the regional authority, not central government. From this week, anyone with access to a Minitel (the tiny, on-line computer that allows most telephone subscribers access to thousands of different databanks) can find out which beaches have been tested recently and how clean they are.

There are four possible categories: Category A (blue spot), good-quality water; Category B (green spot), average-quality water; Category C (yellow spot), water likely to be temporarily polluted; and Category D (red spot), bad-quality water.

Most hotels will allow guests to use the Minitel, but they should be aware that it is not a free service. The information ratchets up one franc 25 centimes per minute.

The *mairie* (town hall) in every seaside town is also supposed to display prominently the results of all local tests. The local tourist board, Maison de la France in Paris or the French Tourist Board in Britain can provide a small map detailing hundreds of test results from last summer. The tourist board should also be able to provide visitors with a similar map of France, covering inland, fresh-water bathing sites. Of the spots that were tested during the summer of 1991, 88 per cent were within the EC norms. Again, the all-fresh-water scores will be shown on Minitel throughout the summer, as they become available.

SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH

Neither Trouville nor Deauville come up to EC scratch

headland to Toulon, in a succession of small coves and pretty ports.

Now come le Lavandou and Baumes les Mimosa and trips out to the îles d'Hyères, another haunt of the hedonists, before St Tropez looms up just past Port Grimaud, a customised water hole for yachtsmen. "St Tro" is more tacky than it used to be but still with wonderful beaches and good if expensive harbour-side restaurants. People-watching is the main occupation and the sights are endlessly entertaining.

East of St Tropez are to be found the classic resorts of the old Riviera, St Raphaël, la Napoule and the Queen of them all, Cannes. Cannes hosts the annual film festival but remains in action throughout the year and still plays host to a fashionable clientele. So too does Golfe Juan, and Antibes and Juan-les-Pins, where everyone is slightly older and heavily suntanned and the charms of the beach give way to the attractions of the yacht or the powerboat. This is sensible because

the Alpes Maritimes run down close to the shore and the beaches are mostly shingle and pebbles.

The beach before the Promenade des Anglais at Nice is so stony that the café owners provide their customers with wooden duckboards to walk on and plastic loungers to lie on — at a price, of course. Past Nice, on the coast below the Corniche, the small resorts continue, with bathing off the rocks at Beaulieu, Villefranche, Eze and Cap Ferrat, keeping the smart set happy until it is time to get into the glad rags and head into Monte Carlo for a night at the tables. So at last to Menton, that charming and somewhat neglected Edwardian resort right on the Italian frontier, a place full of soft airs and lemon groves.

When the right beach has been found and enjoyed, pay attention to the hinterland, full of quiet towns where dogs pant in the shade of the plane trees. Back there in the hills, a few miles from the sea, the holiday beaches of the Mediterranean might be on another planet.



Wily way to avoid traffic

The first of a series of useful tips for the traveller in France:

Traffic Jams: Although France has 6,500 km of motorway, doubt that of Britain, traffic often comes to a standstill, especially in August. Each year the French Ministry of Transport provides maps showing areas of congestion and construction work on roads, information of alternative routes and how to avoid the worst traffic jams. They are called *Bison Fute* (wily buffalo) and are available free at petrol stations.

Nationalists: Tourists are always welcome. Areas with graffiti such as *Touriste — Con* (bloody tourists), *Les touristes passent, l' paysan trespasse* (tourists walk by while the countryside is dying) should be treated with caution. Your cottage is unlikely to be burnt down but do not expect to be asked to join in a game of pétanque with the locals.

Photography: The French may dress to be looked at but they do not necessarily like being photographed. Ask permission before photographing quaint boules players or lavender pickers; street entertainers expect payment.

Insurance: Your ordinary UK motor insurance automatically gives you the legal minimum requirement for France, but the legal minimum is much less than the cover you would normally have in Britain. To extend your normal cover, you need to buy from your insurer a Green Card (motor insurance certificate) which will be accepted in all European countries as evidence that you have satisfactory cover.

Priority: Drivers arriving off the ferry beware: The *priorité à droite*, rule, under which, in the absence of any indications to the contrary, traffic coming from the right has priority, no longer holds in all cases. Major roads outside built-up areas now have right of way and the rule no longer applies at roundabouts either where traffic enters from approach roads gives way as does in Britain but in built-up areas priority still applies. Even the French are confused.

Readers tips on travel in France are welcomed. Please send them to: *Insider France, Passport to France, The Times*, Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The Holiday Guide to France (£10.95) published by Consumer Association and Hodder and Stoughton, is available (postage and packing free) from Dyer HGFBS, which FREEPOST, Henford X, SG14 1YB.

On Fridays, *The Times* LB Last-minute France Hotline is your guide to stop-press holiday, travel and rental bargains. On Thursdays after 6pm on LBC NEWSTAL (97.3 FM), Angela Rippon in *h* Drivetime programme will provide the offers available in Friday paper.

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● The service of the French office to make arrangements for car hire, special interest tours, concerts, exhibitions, reservations at top quality restaurants and visits to private wine cellars and wine tastings, as well as other reservations.

● Temporary membership of top quality golf clubs. Bookings must be made in advance through the Chateau-Welcome office, and are based on the Chateau-Welcome 1992/93 price list. The offer is valid for all stays up to and including June 30, 1993. The normal booking conditions of Chateau-Welcome will apply to all reservations made as part of this exclusive offer.

Readers booking as part of the offer will have a complimentary edition of *The Times* supplied to them by their

Remote and restful

Like so many of the Gentilhommes de France, the Chateau-Monplan is an undisturbed gem. Driving in from south-west, through the lush "Quercy" countryside and hardly seeing another car, you can almost miss the turning with its modest sign saying simply "Monplan".

At the centre of an 80-acre estate lies the house, which dates from the 14th century and which Peter and Danièle Martin have transformed into a marvellously restful place to stay. The Martins — he American, she Corsican (and an excellent cook) — bought it 18 years ago and have transformed it from a ruin into a place of lavish yet stylish good taste. There are only two



Monplan: in an area noted for butterflies and bats

bedrooms, each with a spacious bathroom.

A remarkable swimming pool — made from an old carp reservoir cut from the rock — sits across from the tower adjoining the house. The Martins also have three horses on the property and the area is particularly noted for its butterflies and bats. The Martins recommend from Easter to October as the best time to visit. "We do not want it to be like a hotel," says Mme Mar-

tin, who will provide dinner for guests (and her plans are much too elaborate). She admits it is impossible to maintain a relationship with guests, but any way the whole lot of them is a far cry from the impersonal hotels. Altogether there is a heart of the (double room, bed and breakfast, £75 before discount, a charming place to stay.



CHATEAU TOKEN

HOW TO BOOK Collect three tokens from those published in *The Times*, until Thursday, July 2. Booking must be made in advance through the Chateau-Welcome office. Send your three tokens with an A5 size (value 54p first-class or 41p second-class) to: Chateau-Welcome, GDF Promotion, PO Box 66, 94 Bell Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 1XS. Offer subject to availability.

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Daddy doesn't live here

Dan Quayle is helping to hang the American election on the collapse of family values, specifically fatherlessness, reports Kate Muir

Like many significant inventions — moon visits, the mass-production of automobiles, the home-microwave production of crack — the Americans have come out with it first: fatherlessness. By the end of this century, fatherlessness will overtake fatherhood as the natural state of the New World.

Although there will be fathers somewhere in the picture, divorce and illegitimacy will mean an estimated 51 per cent of children will grow up without a father permanently under the same roof. Of course, this had already happened to black families by 1991, with two thirds having only one parent and more than 90 per cent of those being fatherless families. It was only when the same set of statistics started bearing down on the white family, rendering it one third fatherless last year, that moralists, sociologists, church leaders and vice-president Dan Quayle really started to panic.

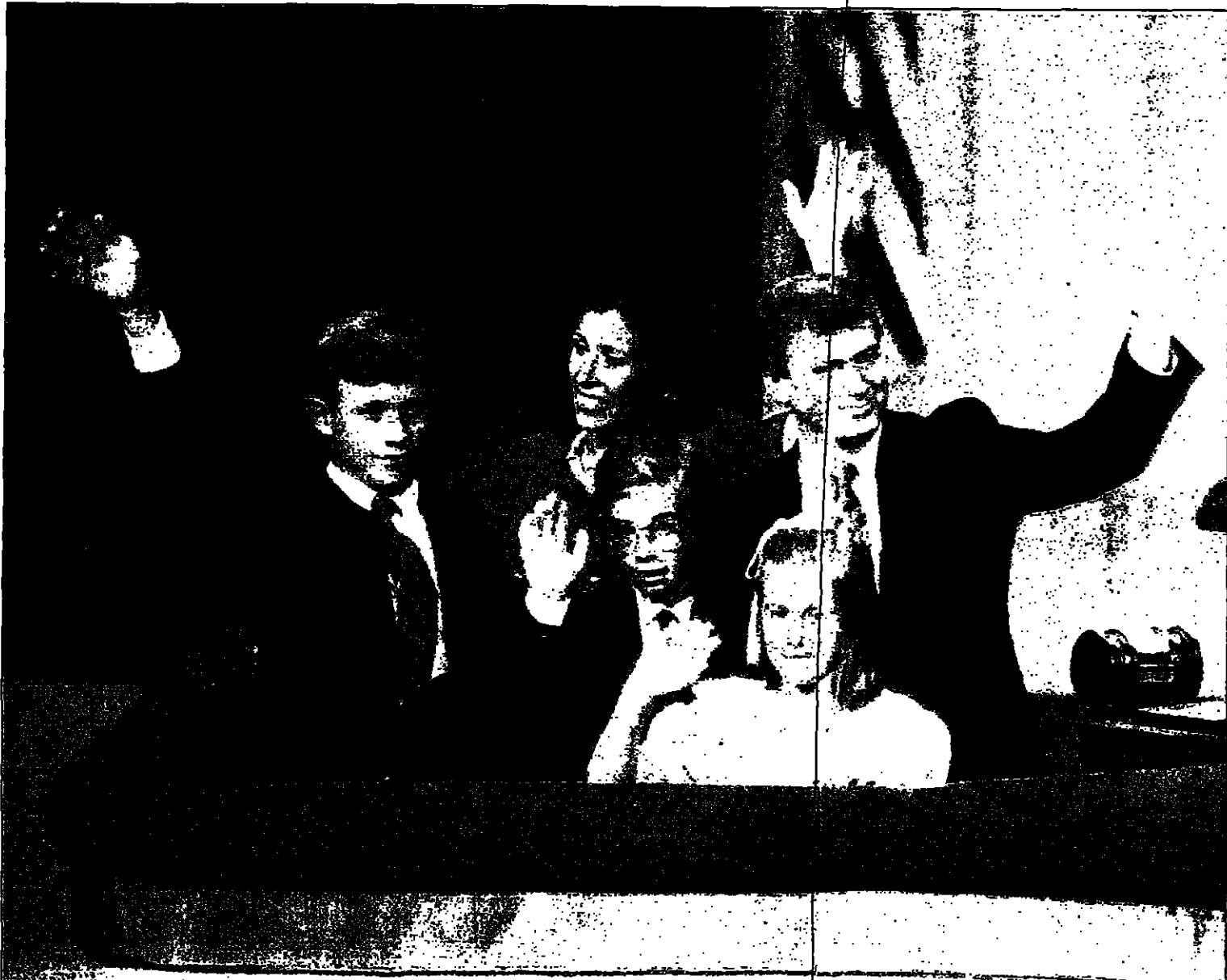
Suddenly, the words "family values" have shot to the foreground in daily debate. Magazines drip statistics and sob stories, newspapers dedicate their front pages to graphs showing the wages of sin and single parenthood, and politicians ensure the "traditional American family" makes a poignant appearance in each speech.

Of course, the meaning of the word family varies depending on its user. For vice-president Quayle and the average church-leader, it indicates a Christian, anti-abortion stance, celebrating the nuclear family, preferably with a male breadwinner, a couple of children and a wife at home. That 82 per cent of American families no longer meet that ideal is glossed over.

Meanwhile, the presidential hopeful Ross Perot tells television networks that he puts "a very strong store on moral values" and he would not hire homosexuals or adulterers for senior cabinet positions. And in the pinkish corner, Bill Clinton has to say that his definition of family could include long-term committed homosexual relationships.

Whatever the definition, it must surely be the first time that moral or family values have played any significant part in an election or in a country's everyday news. The collapse of the family has struck a chord with ordinary people, and it tends to take the blame for many social problems, such as riots, falling educational achievement and drugs.

Professor Martha Fineman of Columbia Law School, who is working on a book titled *The Neutered Mother, the Sexual Family and Other Twentieth Century Tragedies*, says that the Republicans are using family values "as a rhetorical device to deflect concern from material problems in welfare payments and



American fantasy: the Quayles en famille, an "ideal" family in a country where 82 per cent of the population do not fit into the mould

The important predictor of juvenile delinquency is not race or income. It is the absence of a father

health care". She points out that welfare laws favour single mothers, rather than keeping families together, and new abortion rules which all but exclude the poor, ensure a regular supply of teenage single mothers.

The statistics must be eyed warily. "People who write about fatherlessness often confuse the lack of a formal marriage with the lack of a parent," Professor Fineman says. As to the theory that single parenthood is the main indicator of a growing underclass, who are unlikely ever to take part in "normal" society, she says that poverty is the greatest contributor to criminal or drug-taking children, not the lack of a father, although fatherlessness may play a part.

Such theories depend on where you shop for your statistics. A few miles down the road at the Institute for American Values in New York, its president, David Blankenhorn, gives an opposite point of view. The institute is independently funded and non-partisan and has been studying family and public policy for the past five years. "Fatherlessness is the engine that drives many of our worst social problems," Mr Blankenhorn says. "The most important predictor of juvenile delinquency is not race or income. It is the absence of a father."

"For teenage pregnancy it is a

similar story — young fatherless women are twice as likely to get pregnant outside of marriage. The explosion of juvenile crime and teenage pregnancy tracks the increase in fatherless homes with eerie precision."

He does agree that poverty, declining educational opportunities and de-industrialisation are significant secondary factors. The theory that fatherlessness is bad for you seems "rather banal," says Mr Blankenhorn, although during the past 20 years, conventional wisdom played down the importance of two-parent families. "You wouldn't expect to have needed a think-tank to tell you what grandma could have told you sitting on the front porch."

The Institute for American Values looks at the family from a cultural rather than a political viewpoint. The easing of divorce laws, the economic independence of women and the acceptance of short-term relationships have all contributed to the

change, according to Mr Blankenhorn. "But it's misguided to place the blame for all this on women. They may be more financially independent, but it is men that are basically doing this. In the last three decades, it has suddenly become acceptable to put the individual ahead of the family. Autonomy and self-expression are valued higher than staying together for the kids. We are more attentive to our own needs and less attentive to the needs of institutions like the family, the community or religion."

Selfishness is rampant, but disguised as individual freedom. "This is the same as the 'G' West young man" cry which we valued 150 years ago. Now it's couched as 'Do your own thing'. It's the same in all rich countries, even Britain. It's just more pronounced here."

Mr Blankenhorn says the present flurry of interest in the disintegrating family may be the beginning of recognition which will result in change. He sees no governmental solution to the problem, which he believes will only abate with a slow turn-around in values.

The Republican-financed think-tank which advises Mr Quayle uses more extreme terms. The Family Research Council rallying cry is this: "As we enter the final decade of the

20th century, we find ourselves embroiled in a second civil war — a Civil War of Values — that will likely determine the future of the family in our society... from Congress to the Supreme Court, two value systems are clashing in a great struggle over family, faith and freedom — with our children as the ultimate prize."

Keen to join this clash of the Titans, the presidential candidates are battering into television and other media for "irresponsibly" portraying too many non-nuclear families.

There is a less public search going on for traditional values to cling on to. The bestseller lists are one indication that Mr Quayle may have picked a popular cause. Mr Blankenhorn's book, *Rebuilding the Nest* has sold 250,000 copies without a single review in a leading newspaper. And a book by Marian Wright Edelman, a black lawyer and children's rights campaigner, *The Measure of Our Success: A Letter to My Children and Yours*, is in its third reprint, having only been published last month in America, and this month in Britain.

The book is simple homespun philosophy. It includes 25 Lessons for Life: Lesson 1: There is no free lunch. Don't feel entitled to anything you don't sweat and struggle for... Lesson 4: Never work for money or power. They won't save your soul or build a decent family or help you sleep at night."

Trouble at the tombola

Rect the trestles, lay out the stalls, dust down your white elephant and put out more flags. It's that time of year when every local organisation — little or large — is having its annual fundraising bazaar. Mother and toddler groups do it for tricycles, churches for new roofs, schools for classroom software, scouts for extra tents.

Established British tradition dictates that instead of asking for the cash, you should try to exchange it for a pot of homemade pickle, a geranium cutting, a jigsaw puzzle with three pieces missing or a raffle ticket that might entitle you to £10 worth of goods at your local builders' merchants.

Each year I swear I will never take part in the school bazaar again, and by the following summer I have forgotten and half-forgotten. This year I kept my head below the volunteering parapet until the last moment. Logistically, that was a mistake. I might have been awarded the second-hand books stall, even cakes, crafts and fancy goods. Instead, I copped last shift on the tombola.



DAVINA LLOYD

The reason for not manning the tombola stall is the tickets. Unless someone reliable and mathematically astute has done the ticket-sticking, you could be in big trouble. Success, rather than local riot, depends on the winning ticket halves being securely attached to the prizes and the other halves being deposited in the spinning barrel into which the punters dip.

Sounds simple enough. But you can easily see that if anyone picks Yellow 15 and there isn't a bottle of lavender water for them to take home, there will be consternation. If you are on the early shift and reasonably deft, you can switch tickets and hand over a box of Chesleets or two lacy handkerchiefs. But as the afternoon progresses, the prizes diminish, the queue remains constant, and the coloured cloakroom stubs in the barrel bear ever lessening relation to the array of hunting-scene place mats and cake decorating sets. By the time the vicar gave me his honour, (which ought to have given him seven chances) I was down to little more than a jar of stuffed olives and a CD recording of Plácido Domingo.

Sods law, he picked a winner. Fortunately, I knew a friendly father on the next stall. "Aha, lucky pink 305," I told the cleric, "that gives you a free choice from the plant stall." A decent but now disappointed chap, he had to choose from the tradecantia and sage cuttings in yoghurt pots.

A few minor hiccups challenged the afternoon. Some concern was expressed that the local fire engine — offering children free goods to try out helmets and hoses — would have some difficulty attending a real fire since it was hemmed

in by badge-making stalls and a lady telling tarot fortunes. But I have known fêtes worse than that.

There was the year the school rented a mini zoo, small animals of all sorts — bristled, feathered, furry — arrived to be ridden, stroked and purred over by the children. The mild protest from bristling animal activists with ruffled feathers was nothing compared to the business of hosing goat droppings off the playground before start of play on Monday.

Of those who were present, who could forget the year when essential school appointments were accidentally knocked down to keen bidders in the garden furniture sale: eight flip top desks and two collapsed deckchairs to the dealer in the back row...

At the end of the day, comes the reckoning. This year the stall had taken £34.49 — minus a five float — to contribute to the school coffers. Given the number of hours employed in preparation, marketing and sales, the capital expenditure, reductions for customers claiming only to have 12p for a 20p raffle ticket, our takings were insubstantial. Skilled and committed parents had been working for around 23p an hour.

We don't do it for the money, so why do we all agree to buy each others' rock cakes, parcel up wholesale bath salts into jam jars with a ribbon round? It is, of course, for the sake of the children.

We could as some organisations do, bring in the professional fundraisers. But would they feel it was worth having the fancy dress parade or the Make a Healthy Salad competition — neither a major money earner?

If someone from the PTA offered the option right now: swap your six grim hours of community service or send us a compulsory £10 donation in return for a date loaf — I ought to jump at it. But somehow, all the hassles and trestles and traumas retain their fascination. Like all the other parents, who could think of another way to spend a summer Saturday. I shall be there again, doing time on that white elephant of an institution — the school bazaar.

It has a fête attraction.

Bonds across the barriers

Why South Africa is prepared to try trans-racial adoption



Joint development: Maggie Friedman and her ten-month-old adopted son Leo

Maggie Friedman, a single parent, holds her ten-month-old adopted son, Leo. She says she was "born with the questions he was born with." Before he is three, she wants to know: "Where's daddy? He will also start asking that people around him are a different colour," she says. "It's not going to be an easy job to explain."

Ms Friedman, a computer programmer, is one of a small number of white people in South Africa who in the past few months have adopted black infants. She and her son live in the mainly white Johannesburg suburb of Sandton.

When she goes to school shops or walks out with him in his push chair, people sometimes stop and stare. Friedman if he is her child. No, she says, he is not. "I don't feel obliged to explain," she says.

Trans-racial adoption, long discouraged in South Africa, has come to South Africa as a result of an amendment made almost a year ago to the Child Care Act when a reference to race was deleted. Friedman says the act had been down that it was illegal for one formally to adopt a child of another race.

Ms Friedman was one of the first to apply to the authorities to adopt a non-white baby. She used to be known as a "coloured" woman. Now, as a result of legislative reform, she is a white woman in documents

simply as a South African. But Ms Friedman has no illusions. "A non-racial society is emerging," she says. "Schools are going to be open and there will be a positive role for blacks. But discrimination is not going to end."

Tragically, she knows better than most people the extremes to which it can go — ten months before President FW de Klerk announced his programme of apartheid reform, Friedman and her husband, David Webster, a 41-year-old lawyer, adopted a 10-month-old boy from Witwatersrand.

Ms Friedman is a single parent. She and Webster, who is a successful businessman, have a 10-year-old son. She is a single parent. She is a single parent. She is a single parent.

Leo was seven weeks old when she brought him home. "I know some of his mother's background and I hope to establish a bond later on — I feel it's important to tell us," she says.

The father's background, she adds with a shrug, is not very clear. "I feel very lucky. I fell into a couple there. There are so many black children who are abandoned. This month an urgent appeal was made for South Africans to adopt infants who have been orphaned or abandoned as a result of the continuous worsening township violence. The Transvaal Provincial Administration — a multi-racial executive body appointed by the state president — said the number of orphaned children

increasing dramatically and there were 20 in one hospital alone in the Johannesburg area.

Dozens of people have responded to the call and their applications are being processed. But Ms Friedman says the privately-funded Johannesburg Child Welfare Organisation, which she and Webster have joined, admits that prejudice and apprehension remain.

"Black community is against it and is calling for a better long-term solution," she says. "We are worried that hard working black parents and that they mean financial support for adoption. But we should not let practical difficulties prevent us from being able to help very badly."

Both the African National Congress (ANC) and the

radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) say they are not opposed to trans-racial adoption. An ANC spokesman said that as a non-racial organisation it was concerned only with the well-being of children and that the colour of adoptive parents did not concern it, a view echoed by the PAC.

Waters "Bishop" Tobotti, the PAC's director of publicity and information, points to another aspect of the problem. He returned recently to South Africa after ten years' exile and when he left the country the sprawling urban squatter camps, where some of the worst violence occurs, were unknown. "The other day a family of seven was killed in an attack and only a child of 11 survived. What happened to it? Nobody has been to look."

Traditionally, says Mr Tobotti, Africans have adopted formal adoption, looking for abandoned or orphaned children and financial assistance. But this tradition is breaking down in the urbanised communities.

How successful a process is it? It is difficult to predict. The Johannesburg Child Welfare Organisation, which she and Webster have joined, admits that prejudice and apprehension remain.

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Why South Africa is prepared to try trans-racial adoption

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Hacked to pieces by his peers

The royal book to beat all royal books has been greeted ignobly by other royal watchers

Poor Andrew Morton. Just a few months ago he was a relatively unknown "royal watcher", going about his business with a measure of charm and discretion. He was liked by other journalists on the royal beat, where exclusives are so thin on the ground that there is a tendency to share information. This spirit of friendly competition broke down once it was realised that Mr Morton's book, on the Princess of Wales, *Diana: Her True Story*, had named sources talking on the record.

Reviews of Mr Morton's book over the past two weeks have been notably hostile, and some pompous. Philip Ziegler, in *The Daily Telegraph*, described Mr Morton as a "little hack", meaning "little in an intellectual or even spiritual sense", and accused him of a "prurient and malicious analysis". While saying that "the royal marriage is not a happy one," Mr Ziegler claimed that "there can be no justification for prying into the lives of two people who may be forced to present themselves constantly in the public domain but who still have a right to a decent modicum of privacy."

At the *Sunday Telegraph* Hugh Massingberd was even more supercilious, calling Mr Morton "a tabloid vulgarian from Leeds", writing "noventish purple". The book, he thought, was a "sancimo-

nious, one-sided, intrusive, impertinence." Mr Massingberd also takes a swipe at Carolyn Bartholomew, one of the sources for Mr Morton's book, for being "suspiciously keen on media publicity", as if this were a character defect. Elizabeth Longford wrote in *The Times* that Mr Morton's book "sinks", criticised the sources for their "insatiable and

disloyalty" and worried about the long-term effects on the monarchy. One cannot help but note that Lady Longford and Mr Ziegler, as authors of more respectful works on the royal, are both worried about the decline of the institution which has earned them money over the years. Penny Juno, also a royal author, was critical in *Today* — although it was more

of a whinge than an assault on Mr Morton — but Anthony Holden, yet another biographer of the Prince of Wales, supported him in the *Daily Mail*.

With less commitment to royalty, both John Naughton in the *Observer* and Richard Heller in *The Mail on Sunday* decided to treat Mr Morton to the benefit of their facetious wit. "I believe Mr Morton's account," Mr Heller wrote. "Neither his prose style... nor his powers of insight suggest he has enough imagination to invent it." Mr Naughton was genuinely amusing, but he had clearly

ROY GREENSLADE

The author is a former editor of the *Daily Mirror* and was managing editor of the *Sunday Times*.

Music still sells magazines, but are the glossy monthlies killing the inky weeklies? York Membery reports

Bottom of the pops

Just over a month ago, the staff of *New Musical Express* celebrated the fortieth anniversary of Britain's best-known weekly music paper. A special supplement paid tribute to its influence over the past four decades and pop stars were asked what *NME* meant to them.

Joe Elliott, the lead singer of Def Leppard, one of the country's biggest-selling rock bands, told the paper that its contribution was: "Absolutely nothing. It's politically biased and has about as much to do with music as the *Beano*."

His response was fairly typical. Virtually nobody could find anything positive to say about the paper — and this goes to the heart of the problem facing today's emasculated weekly music press.

In the summer of 1977, *NME* and others of its ilk were gleefully reporting the latest antics of the Sex Pistols and the 101 other punk groups. Barely a week passed without the Pistols' Johnny Rotten or Sid Vicious doing something outrageous, and the circulation boom kept everybody satisfied. *NME* was selling nearly 200,000 copies a week, *Melody Maker* 150,000, *Sounds* 115,000 and *Record Mirror* 100,000.

Who could have foreseen that by 1992 *Sounds* and *Record Mirror* (owned by United Newspapers) would have folded, and that the combined sales of *NME* and *MM* (both part of IPC) would have plummeted to 185,000?

Hand in hand with the decline of traditional weeklies has been the rise of glossy monthly music magazines such as *Q*, *Select* and *Variety*, and, as a result, many people in the industry now believe the days of the weeklies to be numbered.

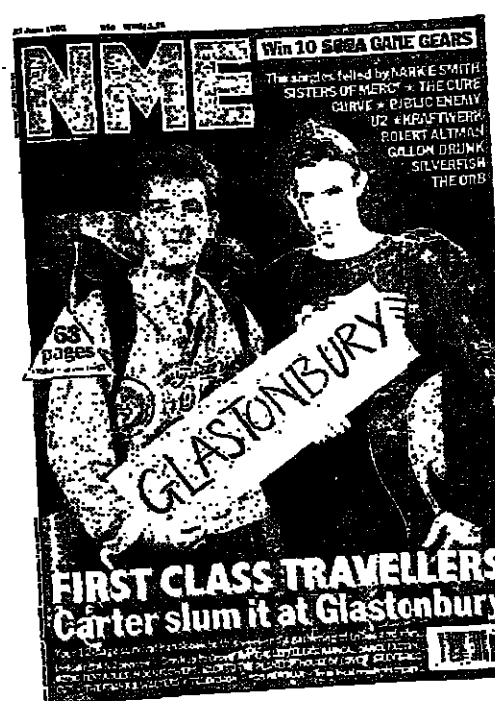
The rot set in with the launch of *Smash Hits* in the early 1980s, a bright new title that, targeting its young teenage readership, championed pop groups such as Duran Duran, Culture Club and Wham! and was rewarded with a circulation approaching a million.

As Mark Ellen, the editor of *Select* magazine (circulation 80,000) and founding editor of *Q* reveals, *Smash Hits* weaned youngsters off the weekly press. He says: "A generation grew up with glossy, picture-packed colour magazines. They weren't prepared to buy inky old papers and get their hands covered in newsprint."

But he believes the weeklies' haemorrhaging of sales in the 1980s owed as much to their cynicism, elitism and overblown sense of self-importance as to the threat posed by the new user-friendly titles.

"*NME*, in particular, backed the wrong horses: obscure groups that nobody besides the writer had ever heard of or were remotely interested in," Mr Ellen says. "It thought the Socialist Worker's Party was more important than the latest album, and virtually banished groups from the cover."

Paul Du Noyer, the current



Up to date, but out of touch? The covers of the latest *New Musical Express* and *Melody Maker*



editor of *Q* (which, with sales of 170,000, is the biggest-selling music monthly), agrees that this was almost certainly the main factor in the subsequent decline of the "inkies", the unflattering label given to the papers by the glossies. "*NME* ended up alienating its own readership," he says. "It thought people bought the paper because of its writers. They didn't; they bought it for the artists who were written about."

The traditional music press has also been hit by changing fashions, according to Selina Webb, the deputy editor of *Melody Maker*, who says: "It's not trendy to be seen

reading *NME* or *MM* any more. People have got used to nice glossy magazines."

But Danny Kelly, the editor of *NME*, is quick to leap to his paper's defence. "Sure, we lost our way in the mid-1980s," he says, "but sales have been climbing over the past three years. We can react quickly to events which have been and gone by the time the monthlies hit the newsstands. I can't help but be optimistic about the future."

Allan Jones, the editor of *Melody Maker*, says: "In the days of punk the music papers had the market sewn up, but the appearance of the glossy monthlies eroded our cir-

culation base. The recession has hit us hard, but our underlying strength should not be underestimated."

Another fan of the inkies is Roy Carr, once of *NME* and now editor of *Variety* (circulation 100,000), which is also owned by IPC. "If they ever disappear it will be a sad day. It would be like the Tower of London without the ravens. I hope they'll always be around."

Surprisingly, the two papers could soon face competition from a new title. Last year Emap Metro, publishers of *Smash Hits*, *Q* and *Select*, was reported to have paid United Newspapers more than £100,000 for the rights to *Sounds*.

United in our differences

SELLING POINT

Winston Fletcher



Politicians are not the only ones whose culottes are in a bit of a twist over Europe. The marketing fraternity's boxer shorts are similarly entangled.

In one corner, so to speak, are those marketing prize-fighters who contend that Europe is shrinking daily, as brands such as Benetton, BMW and Bacardi sweep across the Continent.

In particular, they argue that city-dwellers have more in common with other city-dwellers than they do with country bumpkins, even if the bumpkins come from their own country.

But those in the other corner of the ring remain uncowed. Europeans, they say, are still as different as chalk and cheese. To quote the Henley Management Centre's report on the 1990s: "There is no evidence of a cultural implosion in Europe, and Europeans show little inclination to learn one another's languages or to share lifestyles."

In other words, while we Brits imbibe our warm bitter, the Greeks sip their retsina and the Italians gulp down their grappa. The Belgians drink three times as much beer as the French, the Italians drink three times as much wine as the Germans, and nobody sips nearly as much cider as the English. Every region of Europe still has its own favourite food.

Nor is it just food and drink. The Germans own more than three times as many dishwashers as the Dutch, while the Dutch own more than twice as many video cameras as the

Belgians, and the Belgians own no less than nine times as many freezers as the Spanish. (The Spanish have an awful lot of gas cookers, though.)

The simple truth is that in marketing terms Europe is shrinking, but the contraction is very slow and still has a very long way to go. Some things are the same everywhere, others are completely different. But many marketing moguls seem unable to grasp this profound statement of the obvious, and so end up rushing into botch-ups, bungles and boobs.

Who could have predicted that Marks & Spencer would find that one of the top-selling lines in its flagship Boulevard Haussmann store would be pre-dressed white leavers? The Parisians like them because they keep fresh longer than traditional baguettes. It's enough to make a Francophile weep.

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In front of the cameras or behind a microphone, how do you best present your case? Martin Rosenbaum reports on the new trend in media training

Training the talking heads

A two-minute interview done well on peak-time television is worth hundreds of thousands of pounds in free advertising. On the other hand, the wrong sound bite can be a catastrophe. The media training industry has mushroomed over the past decade, as more and more people decide they need to learn the skill of coming across well on television and radio.

"Media training has come of age," says Cathie Fraser, the managing director of one of the leading companies in the field, InterMedia Training. "Companies now recognise the power of the media, and they understand that a minor hiccup can turn into a corporate disaster when an ill-equipped spokesman opens his mouth and promptly puts his foot in it."

There are now at least 40 companies in Britain offering media training, ranging from specialists to PR firms, production companies and corporate video makers who find it a profitable add-on to their core business. Courses usually cover a variety of mock situations, such as one-to-one studio interviews, panel discussions and radio phone-ins. Some more elaborate courses involve more complex scenarios, such as an explosion at a company's factory and the subsequent media harassment with which the trainees have to learn to deal.

The clients are mainly companies, but include public bodies, trade associations, charities and pressure groups. Political parties also organise extensive in-house operations to help their spokesmen and parliamentary candidates.

The industry's success suggests that most course participants are satisfied customers who feel training has boosted their performance. Certainly many in broadcasting believe the existence of the industry has helped improve the general quality of interviews over the past few years. But the audience is not always better off when, for example, the interviewee does evade the question and keeps repeating a point he or she has already made.

Nevertheless, some broadcasters

do question the value of such courses.

Vincent Hanna, a BBC television presenter, says: "I hate media training. Its contribution is minimal. If you have a clear communications strategy, any passer-by can tell you about wearing the right colour shirt and sitting up straight but if you don't know what it is you want to say and why, interview



Professional advice: BBC newsreader Andrew Harvey

training is not worth a row of beans." Others have different reservations. Jeremy Paxman, presenter of BBC2's *Newsnight*, has taught on media training courses in the past "when very broke", although he does not any more.

"Those who can afford it tend to be already powerful, well-resourced organisations," he says. "Those who need it most are the small people who can't afford it. It further skews the balance of advantage in favour of the powerful vested interest. About a year ago I was asked to be involved in a major environment expose. I turned it down."

But while some prominent broadcasters stand aloof, many do not. An increasing number of well-known figures appear as tutors on courses. They include John Humphrys, of the Radio 4 programme *Today*; Andrew Harvey, BBC newsreader; Michael Nicholson, of ITN; and Tom Mangold, a presenter of BBC1's *Panorama*. This trend has led to concern about

potential conflicts of interest. Mr Harvey acknowledges that not everyone in the BBC favours presenters participating in media training, but defends his position: "If I felt I was engaged in an exercise to teach people tricks then I would feel embarrassed about it, but I'm not. My task is to give people practice at expressing themselves clearly and concisely. That is in the interests of broadcasters and of the audience."

The BBC has found it necessary to issue guidelines on the involvement of staff in external media training. These state that such training must not be against the interests of broadcasting.

The guidelines also state that potential interviewees should not be taught how to evade questions, staff should not coach individuals who are about to appear on their programmes, and long-term commitments to train particular individuals or organisations should be avoided because of possible financial dependence.

But some training companies feel there is a more fundamental conflict of interest. Television and Radio Techniques, a long-established Sheffield-based firm, has a policy of not using working journalists as trainers in case they then become privy to sensitive and newsworthy information. John Brand, the company's managing director, asks: "If you want security advice on your home, would you employ a working burglar?"

Famous names impress clients and provide good practice for difficult interviews, but good teaching does not stop there. Media training is a sensitive task. Many participants find seeing themselves on screen rather harrowing, and the trainer has to discuss their personal mannerisms, body language, appearance and character.

InterMedia's Ms Fraser emphasises how difficult the trainer's task can be. "Occasionally it is our job to tell the company chairman that he is pompous, looks like an unmade bed, and should not go on the television," she says.



Vantage point: Jeremy Paxman feels that those able to afford courses on how to handle the media gain an unfair advantage

FOR THOSE WANTING TO CREATE A GOOD IMAGE ON TELEVISION, THE MESSAGE IS: LOOK SMART AND THINK FIRST

When Alan Watson, former presenter of *Panorama* and *The Money Programme*, runs courses on how to do television interviews, he shows his clients a cautionary video of broadcasting disasters.

The blunders featured include a recent transport minister proclaiming that the road behind him is perfectly safe, just before two cars crash into each other. It also contains Dan Quayle getting confused on the Nazi holocaust: "It was an obscene period in our nation's history, no, not our nation's but World War II, I mean, we all lived in this century, er, I didn't live in this century, but..."

For Mr Watson these illustrate two important rules. First, never be interviewed on location when you can't be sure what is happening behind you. Second, the worst thing you can do is not to dry up, but to carry on talking when your brain has opted out.

I watched Mr Watson, the chairman of media training company

Corporate Vision, coach two directors of the London office of an American bank in practice interviews. He got one to agree that the bank is a City "outsider" and the other that most of the bank's clients run "simple" businesses. Neither are descriptions which the bank would want to accept, so he stressed that they should not let interviewers push them into terms they don't want to use.

He also discussed their body language. "Your eyes were going all over the place," he told one. "That's natural when you're thinking, but you have to counter your natural instincts. On a tight close-up, the eyes are very important."

His key point, however, was the need for the directors to make clear the reasons why anybody should do business with their bank, and what they thought was better about their bank than other organisations.

Mr Watson's company operates at the top end of the market, where courses are run for one company at a time and tailored specifically to

that company's needs. A one-day course for one person normally costs £2,820. Alternatively, a client could pay £375 to spend a day practising interview techniques with five others on one of the "open courses" run by Hugo Brooke of Media Interviews.

At the session I witnessed, Mr Brooke helped a chemical company manager to deal with the charge that his plant emits unpleasant smells; he advised supporters of a medical research charity on how to defend its policy of animal testing; and he praised a councillor for projecting the best image of his city by talking about local "disturbances" rather than "riots".

Open courses can bring together an incongruous combination of participants. Mr Brooke also runs specific courses for particular companies, but believes that trainees find practice interviews easier without work colleagues present.

Media training courses vary

greatly according to the trainers, their ability both to interrogate and to teach, and the realism of their settings for practice interviews. But the main points to be learnt tend to be the same:

1. Be prepared — find out in advance as much as you can about the interview.
2. Make sure you are clear in your own mind what your case is.
3. Go into every interview with three key points in mind, and ensure that you make them whatever questions are asked.
4. Television is a visual medium. What you look like and the general impression you create have much more impact on most people than anything you say. Make sure that your appearance and manner reflect your desired image.
5. Use examples where possible — a good example is worth a thousand words of abstract argument.
6. Adopt a conversational and lively style, and avoid jargon.

M. R.

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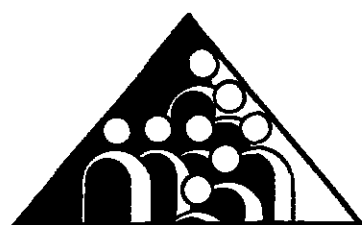
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Recipe for Media Success in Covent Garden

The fruit and vegetable market may have moved south but Covent Garden still provides some excellent 'A la Carte' choice when it comes to Media Training

Fenwick Business Communications, located in the heart of Covent Garden, provides be-spoke media training courses and has been meticulously researched which allows FBC to provide realistic media interview scenarios. Each participant therefore leaves the session fully prepared to meet the media on their terms.

FBC have a panel of tutors and journalists whose expertise ranges from corporate finance to the commercial media. Up to three journalists may supplement the tutor on some courses. This is because each medium, press, radio and television is treated as a separate discipline, recognising that an interview over lunch with the Times is completely different



Fenwick: 'A la Carte'

to a three minute local radio interview and therefore requires different skills. The training usually takes place at FBC's offices. However, courses are often held at radio times, where appropriate, at the client's office or even home.

FBC's Managing Director, Stuart Fenwick, who took over the company last year said, "Prior to my buying the company, I was a very satisfied user of its services. I endeavour to maintain and where possible, enhance those services."

FBC also provides tailor made courses on presentation and crisis management training.

Stuart Fenwick can be contacted on 071-497 4900.

